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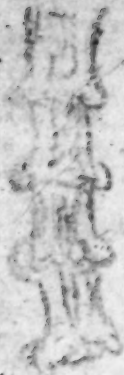
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THE GENUINE
M E M O I R S
O F
MISS FAULKNER;

OTHERWISE
MRS. D * * * L * * * N;
O R,
COUNTESS OF H * * * * X,
IN EXPECTANCY.

CONTAINING,
THE AMOURS AND INTRIGUES OF
SEVERAL PERSONS OF HIGH DISTINCTION,
AND REMARKABLE CHARACTERS:
WITH SOME
CURIOUS POLITICAL ANECDOTES,
NEVER BEFORE PUBLISHED.

L O N D O N :

Printed for WILLIAM BINGLEY, at No. 31. in
Newgate-Street. 1770.

[Price 3s. sewed, and 3s. 6d. bound.]



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W BINGLEY thinks it his duty
• to inform the reader, that the
Author of the following Memoirs is
mistaken in one material point, namely
the marriage of *Miss J——n* with
Mr. Fleming, such an event, he is well
assured, never having happened, that
gentlewoman being now the Lady of
a *Scotch Peer*, and having never been
married to any other person. But
this is a circumstance, which, it is
probable, the Author designedly mis-
represented, in order to save the ho-
nour of the noble family, with which
by her marriage she is now connected;
or perhaps, being only a collateral
subject, and introduced with the sole

ADVERTISEMENT.

view of carrying on the History of *Miss Faulkner*, he might think himself at liberty to use the common licence of a novellist, and to set it in whatever light might best suit his purpose.

The publisher returns his most grateful thanks to the Authors of the Letters, which he has inserted by way of *Supplement* at the end of the work, and humbly hopes the faithful manner, in which he has printed them, will intitle him to their future correspondence.

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THE
M E M O I R S
O F
MISS FAULKNER.

CHAP. I.

MISS FAULKNER was born in Ireland, about twenty miles from the metropolis, of very honest, but very poor parents ; whose circumstances prevented their giving her that sort of education, which the elegance of her person deserved. But it was her good fortune to be the niece of

B

the

2 THE MEMOIRS OF

the celebrated *Peter Paragraph* of Dublin; who, having no children of his own, took Miss Faulkner under his protection, when she was about ten years old, and received her from her parents as his adopted child: and Mr. *Paragraph*, being then in very opulent circumstances, and of a really benevolent and generous disposition, had Miss Faulkner immediately sent to a boarding school, with an appearance suited to her future education and expectance from her uncle.

Whilst Miss Faulkner is now laying the ground-work of her future accomplishments, it may not be disagreeable, or improper, to give some little account of Mr. *Peter Paragraph*, her uncle, as on him alone all her expecta-

expectations of advancement and support depended after her adoption.

Mr. *Paragraph* was born of equally obscure parents with those of his niece, and with some oddities, and some infirmities; of a very low stature, and an uncommonly large head and face, amazingly disproportioned to his body and limbs, and one leg considerably longer than the other; all these circumstances rendered him, what is generally called a very *grotesque figure*; his eyes also were remarkably large, and his voice so much in the *authoritative*, that, with the assistance of an enormous large white wig, with innumerable curls, he has often passed for a *Nabob* in disguise.

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The obscurity of Mr. *Paragraph's* birth did not, however, deprive him of an aspiring genius, nor did the largeness of his head, support the old proverb : for chance having put him into the service of a printer, who had sagacity enough to see into Mr. *Paragraph's* abilities, he not only instructed him in the art of printing, but furnished him with such further means of learning as he thought necessary for the prosecution and management of his trade and business ; and as it has been already observed, that Mr. *Paragraph* always shewed an aspiring mind, he read and studied with so much assiduity and zeal, that, in a few years, he exceeded the utmost expectations of his employer, as well in the art of printing, as in his knowledge

ledge of the best authors in several languages, and proved himself (in his own style) *a very sensible clever fellow.*

Thus in the high esteem and regard of his patron did Mr. *Paragraph* continue to live for some years, when it pleased the fates to put an end to his master's life and printing at once, and left Mr. *Paragraph* in the peaceable possession of all his business and a considerable part of his fortune.

Upon this great acquisition Mr. *Paragraph* despised the drudgery of a printing house, and immediately opened one of the most considerable booksellers shops in Dublin; and the inimitable *Dean Swift* having at that time wrote his *Drapier*, and several

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other spirited papers, Mr. *Paragraph* procured the printing and publication of them, and in a few years became a favourite of the *Dean's*, at the expence of a laugh, not uncommonly occasioned by his singularities, both of style and dress; an instance of which, we hope, will not be disagreeable to such of our readers as love a joke.

After Mr. *Paragraph* had been some time distinguished and greatly honoured as the *Dean's* printer and publisher, by which he had acquired a considerable fortune, his gratitude, as well as his pride, prompted him to cut a very conspicuous, and consequently a very ridiculous figure on the *Dean's* birth-day; and for this purpose

purpose he ordered an elegant suit of velvet, with a bag wig, sword, and every other apparatus suited to a man of fashion, and getting into a chair, set out for the Dean's house, to compliment him on the occasion.—On his arrival the Dean saw him from a window of one of his apartments, and astonished at the folly and foppery of his Printer, was resolved, if possible, to cure him of a foible he so much detested.—On Mr. *Paragraph*'s being introduced to him, the Dean immediately got up from his chair, and with the greatest ceremony received Mr. *Paragraph*, handed him to a chair, and, after the usual compliments between strangers, the Dean asked to whom he was indebted for the honour of the present visit, or if he had any

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commands for him; for he had not the pleasure of knowing him.—Mr. *Paragraph*, not a little abashed and confused at this question, informed the Dean, that he was Mr. *Paragraph*, *his Reverence's printer*; upon which the Dean, without further ceremony, said, ‘ *It was a damn'd lye*; that he knew Mr. *Paragraph*, *his printer*, extremely well; that he was a plain, worthy, good sort of man, and had never made such a baboon of himself, as the figure before him represented; that he was an impostor, and desired he would instantly quit his house.’—Poor Mr. *Paragraph*, confounded with such ridicule, in the utmost confusion got down stairs into his chair, and returned home, terribly mortified and perplexed, dreading the consequences of the Dean's satire and raillery.

He had not been many minutes at home, when a servant from the Dean informed him, that his master desired to speak to him immediately on very particular business. This message had well nigh deprived Mr. *Paragraph* of his senses. He now saw his folly, and dreaded no less than a dismissal from all his employments under the Dean. Great was his suspense, whether he should obey the summons or not; but upon consultation with Mrs. *Paragraph*, who is one of the handsomest, as well as one of the most agreeable ladies in the kingdom, and had great weight in all Mr. *Paragraph*'s deliberations; it was resolved, that Mr. *Paragraph* should appear personally and immediately before the Dean; but not until he had entirely changed

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his dress, and re-assumed his week-day robes.

This point adjusted, Mr. *Paragraph* limped off to the Dean's; who received him with his usual friendship and familiarity; and, in seeming great emotion, told him, that some fantastical puppy had been there a little before, dressed in a suit of velvet, bag wig, sword, &c. and had assumed his name; "But," says the Dean, "I knew *you* too well, *George*,
" to be so imposed on; I ordered
" the fellow out of my house, and
" immediately sent for you, that you
" might be guarded against this
" impostor, lest he might hurt your
" reputation and credit in the city;
" and I would advise you to advertise him directly."

Mr. *Paragraph* felt the severity of this irony; but thanked the Dean for his friendship; and a second time got out of the house as fast as he could, well pleased that it was no worse. This was, however, a mortifying blow to the pride of Mr. *Paragraph*, who about this time had some expectations of being dubbed a knight, and elected one of the sheriffs of the city; which this unexpected, fatal accident, totally overthrew.

Happy, however, would it have been for the peace, prosperity, and grandeur, of the respectable family of the *Paragraphs*, if this had been the worst consequence, that attended this double disappointment; but, alas,

who can foresee what mischiefs are attendant on even trifling incidents! We have already mentioned Mrs. *Paragraph*, as one of the most beautiful and accomplished of her sex; it naturally follows, that her dear Mr. *Paragraph* (who is one of the best judges of the sex) loved her to admiration (an ample proof of which, shall be given in its proper place): and it unfortunately happened, that Mrs. *Paragraph* was pregnant at the time of this disgrace; which so affected her, that she was suddenly taken ill, during her husband's second expedition to the Dean's, and soon after his return home, was delivered of a dead child, a male too! the hopes, the heir of this worthy family; and as Mr. *Paragraph* has
never

never since been able to put his beloved in the like condition, the name and family of the *Paragraphs*, are now likely to become extinct.

As the sympathizing reader is, no doubt, deeply affected with this tragical story, we shall not dwell longer on the afflictions of this unhappy family, than just to observe, that it was this accident that occasioned the vacancy, for the adoption of our heroine, before-mentioned; and as we now are somewhat better able to judge of the temper and character of her uncle and aunt, we shall return to the adventures of the niece, which will more agreeably engage our attention in the next chapter.

C H A P. II.

MISS Faulkner had been about three years at the boarding-school, where we first placed her, and had arrived to her *teens*, when she gave such proofs of her extensive genius and uncommon understanding, as astonished those who had the care of her education, and exceeded the most sanguine expectations of her uncle and Mrs. *Paragraph*, who were now become so equally fond of her, that few days past in which they did not visit her, and shew her every mark of love and affection, which they could have bestowed on their heir, had he lived to enjoy their paternal regards. In short, masters
and

and instructors in every art and science, fit for her tender years, were employed, and she excelled the whole school in painting, drawing, musick, dancing, and every other polite accomplishment; and, in her fifteenth year, Mr. *Paragraph* took her from the boarding-school, and brought her home to his own house, where she continued her amusements, particularly musick, in which she both excelled and delighted.

It may be now thought necessary, to give some account of Miss Faulkner's person.—She was somewhat above the middle size, but as exactly proportioned, as ever any goddess was drawn by the pencil of a *Guido* or *Titian*;—her hair, which was as
black

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black as ebony, in flowing curls, covered the finest neck and skin in the universe; her eyes also were large and black, with all the *soft languishment of the blue*; and every turn of her face, discovered some new grace: add to all these natural charms, a voice that was perfectly transporting, assisted by all the powers of musick, and you may, perhaps, form some idea of what Miss Faulkner then appeared to her numerous train of admirers.

A bookfeller's shop is generally a place of resort for men of genius, taste and gallantry; but the beauty of Mr. *Paragraph's* wife and niece, brought him more visitors of high rank and fashion, than his books; and his
pride

pride always admitted persons of quality to make frequent visits in his family; for he was frequently known to boast of his extensive acquaintance among the nobility, *that he knew lords, and lords knew him.*

In the number of his noble acquaintance, was Lord K—gs——h, of gallant and facetious memory; this young nobleman was as remarkable for his benevolence, generosity and hospitality, as he was for his spirit of intrigue, gallantry and debauchery; there never was such a compound of the ~~highest~~ qualities than can adorn the human heart, blended with vices and excesses, that would disgrace the most abandoned profligate: in short, virtue or distress never departed from his

his door without reward and relief, whilst youth, beauty and innocence, were the daily victims of his most inordinate passions. He was not, by any means, what the ladies pronounce, *a handsome man*: but he was one of the best bred men in Europe; master of the most insinuating address; and where he once commenced a siege, was never known to withdraw his forces, until he had full possession of the *citadel*; in the course of which he exerted the most surprizing courage, dexterity, and diligence, when necessary, and never spared a profusion of the most *powerful ammunition*. *namely*

No sooner did Mr. *Paragraph* remove Miss Faulkner to his own house, than Lord K——— heard of and
saw

saw her; and as his Lordship had a fine taste for musick, and play'd on most fashionable instruments in a very masterly manner, he frequently visited Mr. *Paragraph*, and spent several hours with his Lady and Miss Faulkner, in this enchanting amusement; and as Mr. *Paragraph* thought himself prodigiously honoured in the company of his noble guest, several entertainments were prepared, and little parties made at Mr. *Paragraph*'s, in which the whole family were so delighted with the wit, good humour and elegant behaviour of his Lordship, that they were seldom happy but in his company; and, after some time, his Lordship prevailed with Mr. *Paragraph* to attend the ladies to his Lordship's house, where they were entertained
with

with a splendor and magnificence, that quite dazzled and confounded them.

This sort of intercourse was too flattering to the vanity both of Mr. and Mrs. *Paragraph*, to permit them to reflect on its consequences, especially as Lord K——— had always behaved in such a manner as not to give them the least cause of suspicion; nor had he, as yet, been in the least particular in his behaviour to Miss Faulkner, more than in the raptures he expressed at her musical abilities, and those freedoms that are usual in musical performances, between persons of the first condition.

It is true, that Lord K——— had made some valuable presents, such
as

as diamond ear-rings, necklaces, &c. both to Mrs. *Paragraph* and Miss Faulkner, which he prevailed on them to accept; but his Lordship had now laid the train, and he was resolved to blow up the garrison, if he could not take it by surprize or capitulation.

C H A P. III.

LORD K—— had hitherto found it extremely difficult to get a proper opportunity of declaring his passion for Miss Faulkner; for in love with her he really and truly was, as his Lordship had been with some dozens before her: and if a few thousands would have purchased her from either Mr. or Mrs. *Paragraph*, he would not have hesitated one moment about entering into the treaty. But although no man knew the powerful effects of this *magnum bonum*, or the proper methods of applying it, better than his Lordship, he had some reason to think it would be rejected in the present case; and if so, the parties
would

would be more on their guard, and might possibly remove his beloved where he might not be able to find her: he therefore resolved to proceed by stratagem, and to call in fresh auxiliaries.

In the neighbourhood of Mr. *Paragraph* lived a lady, whom we shall call Mrs. Tabby, the wife of a mercer, who his Lordship knew was not in so opulent circumstances as Mr. *Paragraph*; and as this lady frequently visited in that family, Lord K——— very sagaciously supposed, that a few hundreds applied there might be very serviceable to his cause. To Mrs. Tabby he therefore applied for her assistance, and, after presenting her with a bank note, value two hundred pounds, engaged

gaged her to procure him a meeting with Miss Faulkner at her house, unknown to Mr. or Mrs. *Paragraph*; to which Mrs. Tabby readily agreed, and promised his Lordship every assistance in her power. And the better to countenance this design, Mrs. Tabby that evening met his Lordship at Mr. *Paragraph*'s, when he invited the whole company to supper and a ball a few nights after. Things being thus concerted, Mrs. Tabby in the interim began to sound Miss Faulkner's inclinations in favour of Lord K——— and to her great satisfaction found, that his Lordship had made some very tender impressions on her heart; and in order to touch her to the quick, told her, she was informed, that his Lordship was soon to be married to a
young

young lady, whom she mentioned, one of the greatest fortunes in the kingdom of Ireland.

This was a trial, which the unsuspecting Miss Faulkner was utterly unprepared for; and the moment Mrs. Tabby had finished her disagreeable information, she fainted in presence of Mrs. *Paragraph* and Mrs. Tabby, and was some time before she recovered. And, although the artful tale-bearer well knew the cause of her indisposition, Mrs. *Paragraph* never once suspected it; but having mutually assisted Miss Faulkner, she on her recovery retired to her chamber, and, for the first time in her life, felt all the agonies of a love sick heart, on the point of losing the dearest ob-

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ject

ject of its maiden passion ; nor did she herself, until this fatal moment, know how deeply her affections were engaged to this bewitching, dangerous lord.

Mrs. *Paragraph* spent all the next day in preparing suitable dresses for herself and Miss Faulkner, to appear in at his Lordship's ball, and tho' the latter would have gladly been excused from appearing there, she knew it was impracticable ; and she prepared accordingly, but with emotions far different from those she usually went with to his Lordship's entertainments.

It must be owned, that young ladies, under those critical circumstances, are extremely to be pitied.

The

The virgin heart often receives this fatal impression, when they least know, or even suspect it, until some accident or stratagem forces the discovery; and it is then very difficult, and often impracticable, to prevent or remove it: but when once this secret is known to the object of their wishes, it in a great measure depends upon his generosity and honour, whether they don't fall a sacrifice, to those *natural impressions* and to the impulse of that passion, to which every human being is subject; unless powerfully protected, and prudently cautioned. And the insurmountable difficulty, which inexperienced young ladies generally make, of disclosing the first impressions, of this sort, on their tender hearts, to some friend or con-

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fident, on whom they could with some safety depend, frequently leads them to discover it to low or improper persons, who prostitute the confidence reposed in them, and but too often turn the discovery to their own private advantage and base purposes.

While things were thus preparing at Mrs. *Paragraph's*, Mrs. Tabby did not fail to fly to Lord K——, and acquaint him with the important discovery she had made. Indeed it was what he before suspected and hoped; but he was now in raptures to hear it confirmed, and by his bounty convinced Mrs. Tabby, that he would amply reward her future services.

C H A P. IV.

THE night for Lord K——'s entertainment being at length arrived, his Lordship sent his own coach for Mr. and Mrs. *Paragraph* and their lovely niece, in which Mrs. Tabby was also conveyed. This particular mark of respect and distinction from his Lordship, almost turned the brain of Mr. and Mrs. *Paragraph*, and would have been highly pleasing to Miss Faulkner, had she not been much depressed in her spirits, and her little heart flutter'd with sensations she never before felt. 'Tis true she was dressed in the genteelest manner, and in the most fashionable taste, and the jewels, that had been presented to her

by Lord K——, added to her natural charms, rendered her one of the compleatest beauties in the universe. She however dreaded, that she should here meet with her detested rival, whom she now desperately hated, tho' she had never seen her ; so that love, jealousy, despair and hatred alternately seized and perplexed her tender bosom, and almost deprived her of the faculties of speech and reason.

In this perplext situation she arrived at Lord K——'s house ; but no sooner had the coach stopt, than his Lordship and two or three others of the nobility, were ready at the door to receive them. He had previously engaged Lord D——, of equal address and gallantry, to attend on Mrs.

Paragraph

Paragraph during the whole evening, and keep up her attention from observing what should pass between himself and Miss Faulkner; and he had also prepared a personage, of the greatest consequence in the kingdom, to engage the attention of Mr. *Paragraph* upon politics, his darling subject, for the like reason: so that he had the coast quite clear to carry on his operations.

According to the plan that had been concerted, Lord D——— received Mrs. *Paragraph* from the coach, whilst Lord K——— had the inexpressible pleasure of handing in his adorable Miss Faulkner; and no sooner had he seized her trembling hand, than he knew the violent emo-

tions of her palpitating heart: and such is the cruelty of lovers, that, notwithstanding the pain and confusion which he saw visibly expressed on her countenance, he rejoiced to know, that he was the secret cause. He, however, *whispered soft nonsense in the fair one's ear*, and in some degree calmed her swelling bosom, before they joined the company.

Lord K——— had previously acquainted the company, which he had assembled on this occasion, with Miss Faulkner's amazing powers in musick: several of them were nice judges, as well as Lord K———; and no sooner were the usual ceremonies, and tea, &c. over, than Miss Faulkner was unanimously requested

requested to play and sing, accompanied
 by some others of the company.
 This particular attention to his niece,
 for the first time, drew Mr. *Para-*
graph from his political corner; he
 was transported with the compliments
 every body deservedly paid Miss
 Faulkner; and though she several
 times attempted to play a favourite
 song of Lord K——'s on the
 harpsichord, her hands trembled so
 violently, and her whole frame was
 so agitated, that she could not pro-
 ceed: but, in order to oblige the
 company, and obey her uncle, who
 was particularly pressing on the oc-
 casion, she requested Lord K——
 would play, and that she would en-
 deavour to accompany him with her
 voice. This met with universal ap-
 probation;

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probation; and she exerted such powers, accompanied with a tender plaintiveness in her voice, that every word of the song, which was immediately applicable to her own situation, sunk into the very soul of Lord K———; and when the whole room joined in their warmest praises, he sat in silent admiration and delight unutterable. It is impossible for those who have not experienced the powers of musick, flowing from the lips of a fine woman, to conceive what Lord K——— felt upon this occasion; there is no magic equal to the sounds of such heavenly harmony; nor is it possible for human nature to resist such united charms. Upon this occasion, indeed, Miss Faulkner expressed.

pressed what she really felt, with that modest confusion and pathetick sweetness, which sent thousands of flying Cupids, with their pointed shafts, through all Lord K——'s vital frame: no wonder then, that his Lordship was all transport, and totally absorbed in the most extatic blifs.

Several other noble performers seized the sounding instruments: but to our heroine or his lordship, there was no musick, no harmony in their dull notes. After this concert was over and supper served up, Miss Faulkner began to recover her usual vivacity and spirits. She saw no rival. Lord K—— had behaved to her with the greatest tenderness and re-
C 6 spect,

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spect, and Mrs. Tabby did not fail to encourage her by every perswasive she could think of; and the company were in raptures with her beauty, wit, and charming behaviour. Mr. *Paragraph* himself was delighted with and complimented his most engaging niece; and when the ball began, which Lord D—— opened with Mrs. *Paragraph*, Lord K—— danced the whole evening with Miss Faulkner.

During the dance Lord D—— took particular care to draw off Mrs. *Paragraph's* attention from Lord K—— and Miss Faulkner; and his Lordship took that opportunity of declaring his passion to his beloved. In such a place and so circumstanced, she could not make any reply, which
was

was what he both knew and desired, as he before knew the situation of her heart, and only wanted to convince her of the ardency of his own passion; and after saying every thing he thought necessary for that purpose, he in the most earnest manner begged she would honour him with a meeting the next evening at Mrs. Tabby's, that he might further convince her, both of his sincerity and regard for her. To this request she readily consented, and after spending the evening in the most agreeable manner, Mr. *Paragraph*, his Lady and niece, returned home, as they came, in his Lordship's coach, concluding it one of the most agreeable and happy days of their lives.

C H A P. V.

IT has been already observed, that Lord K——— was compleatly versed in all the arts of seduction, intrigue and gallantry; and knew to a moment when to seize any advantage he had gained. He was, therefore, determined to lose no more time in compleating the present design, than was absolutely necessary; and tho' he was as abandoned and devoted to his pleasures as any man living, he always endeavoured to gain the affections and regard of those very innocents, whom he afterwards was as fully determined to seduce and destroy. And as he was now convinced he had fully engaged the whole soul of Miss Faulkner,

ner, he resolved to carry her off; before she had time to reflect on the nature or consequence of her engagements in his favour; and for that purpose had ordered a chariot and six of his best horses, with proper attendants, to wait near Mrs. Tabby's the evening after the ball, that if he could persuade her to elope with him, it should be done instantly. — Thus prepared he set out for Mrs. Tabby's, where he found Miss Faulkner at tea with that *worthy* Lady; and, upon his Lordship's entering the room, our heroine was once more seized with her palpitations, and apprehensions of *she knew not what*. However after some general conversation, Mrs. Tabby retired, and his Lordship having declared to Miss Faulkner, in the most passionate

passionate terms, that he was the most miserable man in the world, that he had not known a moment's happiness since first he beheld her lovely face, and that there was nothing in his power to make her happy which he would not comply with, provided he might flatter himself, that he had the smallest degree of her esteem; she innocently, but truly, assured his Lordship, that she entertained the highest respect and esteem for him, but that she could not hear his addresses without the permission of her uncle *Paragraph*; and added, that she was well assured his Lordship was then on the point of being married to a Lady of birth and fortune, suitable to his rank and quality; and begged he would not endeavour to disturb her peace of mind.

mind and humble condition, with which she was perfectly contented.

This his Lordship justly construed into the warmest declaration in his favour; and after protesting, in the most solemn manner, that he never would marry the lady she spoke of, that, if she would condescend to go with him into the country, he would settle an ample fortune upon her for her life, and that, if he ever did marry, she should be his choice. He represented to her, that the consequence of her refusal would be his marrying the lady she mentioned, and that, if she remained with her uncle, she would in course be tied to some rude, low bred mechanic, who would not only despise and abuse her lovely person,

person, but keep her in a servile poor way, where she would languish out her life, without tasting those luxuriant pleasures and elegancies, to which her wit, beauty and accomplishments intitled her. Thus pressed by love on one side, by splendor, importunity and deceit on the other, Miss Faulkner was prevailed on, and did consent to elope with his Lordship into the country; but had no notion of setting off that night, which his Lordship was firmly resolved on, lest she should more seriously reflect on the business she was going to embark in, and repent.

Lord K———, however, slept out of the room, and giving Mrs. Tabby some money, desired she would

would buy some few necessaries which might be wanting to Miss Faulkner on the road; at the same time he issued fresh orders to his servants, to hold themselves in readiness. Those mirmidons were so well versed and experienced in these exploits, that they immediately understood what his Lordship was now about. He always travelled with a numerous and splendid equipage, equally well mounted and armed; nor had he a servant in his train, that would not hazard his life in support or obedience of his Lordship's commands, as they perfectly adored him. For such really was the enchanting address and behaviour of this noble Lord to all ranks and degrees of people, that, notwithstanding

standing his notorious debauches and excesses with regard to women, he was universally respected and beloved, wherever he appeared; and those, who the moment before were abusing him, and condemning his profligate life, no sooner beheld him, than they were struck with the general admiration entertained of him by both sexes, and joined in the universal applause that was paid to his many other noble qualities, and his acts of princely generosity. On Lord K———'s return to Miss Faulkner, he told her, that he had sent Mrs. Tabby to buy her a riding dress, which he had that day seen, and was sure would exactly fit her; and Mrs. Tabby just then entering the room with such a dress, his
Lordship

Lordship requested Miss Faulkner to try it on; and while she was dressing, withdrew. Every thing being now ready for his purpose, he communicated his design to his beloved, and prevailed on her that instant to get into his chariot, which was waiting within a few steps of Mrs. Tabby's door. Thus our heroine was not permitted even a negative voice; for whilst his Lordship pressed her to immediate flight, Mrs. Tabby alarmed her with the apprehensions of a discovery, and being forced from the arms of her adorer.

Into the chariot they both got, and the word of command was given, to drive to his Lordship's country house,

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house, which is about a hundred miles from the metropolis. And whilst they are driving as fast as six fine horses can carry them, we shall return to Mr. and Mrs. *Paragraph*, from whom we have been absent some time.

C H A P. VI.

MR. and Mrs. *Paragraph*, we have already observed, were in such raptures with Lord K——'s entertainment, and the whole of his behaviour during the last meeting, that next day they did nothing but visit all their friends, and acquaint them with the particular honours they had received from his Lordship and his noble friends; nor had Mr. *Paragraph* the least doubt but he should now be honoured with the title of Sir *George*, and that Mrs. *Paragraph* would shine in the character of Lady *Paragraph*: In short, he neither thought nor dreamt of any thing else, till he was roused from these delightful

delightful visions by the absence of his niece.

Mrs. *Paragraph* had been out all that afternoon, spreading her own consequence amongst her mechanical acquaintance, whilst Mr. *Paragraph* was displaying his folly in a circle of his *common council* friends and companions; and, on his return home, was amazed to find his dear lady in the utmost perplexity and concern for the absence of Miss Faulkner, whom she knew her husband doated on, not only as being his niece and heir apparent, but because that, through her powerful influence and personal charms, he expected to acquire those dignities, which had long filled his warm imagination, and in
the

the pursuit of which Mrs. *Paragraph* was equally eager.

No wonder, then, that the absence of the author of all their present and future bliss filled them with the most dreadful apprehensions. Messengers and expresses were sent to every part of the city, where Miss Faulkner had visited; whilst Mr. *Paragraph*, in person, limp'd to Mrs. Tabby's;—but alas! on enquiry there, that *worthy* Lady had not seen Miss since the night of the ball at Lord K——'s. This almost distracted Mr. *Paragraph*; but when all the messengers he had sent (amongst whom were a number of young devils) returned, without being able to discover the least

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trace

trace of the fair fugitive, Mr. *Paragraph* was no longer able to contain himself, or support that philosophy and steadiness of temper, which he had been always remarkable for, and greatly boasted of.

Mrs. *Paragraph* was equally affected; and, for two days and nights, they indulged the most poignant sorrow and affliction: but, on the third morning, they received the following letter, which, tho' it did not entirely remove their uneasiness, acquainted them with the rout Miss Faulkner had taken, and with whom.

“ Dear

“ Dear Mr. *Paragraph*,

“ YOU are no stranger to the
 “ pressing invitations, which I
 “ have repeatedly given to your
 “ worthy Lady, Miss Faulkner, and
 “ yourself, to favour me with your
 “ company at Rockingham, where
 “ I should have the pleasure of en-
 “ tertaining you with those rural
 “ amusements, which your good taste
 “ and inimitable fancy would relish,
 “ beyond any thing the smoaky town
 “ can afford. — Some business of im-
 “ portance, which calls me sud-
 “ denly to the country, prevented
 “ my paying the respects due to
 “ your Lady and yourself, before
 “ my departure ; and, as I could not
 “ bear travelling alone, I have pre-
 “ vailed with your adorable niece

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“ to

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“ to honour me with her company :
“ I have assured her you will excuse
“ so precipitate a departure, when
“ you are convinced she is under the
“ protection of her faithful admirer,
“ and

“ Your most obedient servant,

“ K——H.

“ P. S. If Mrs. *Paragraph* and
“ yourself will honour us with
“ your presence, I have given
“ directions, that a coach with
“ a set, and whatever servants
“ you may please to order, shall
“ attend you to Rockingham.”

The receipt of this letter at once
convinced Mr. *Paragraph* and his
Lady

Lady of the folly of their conduct with respect to their niece; and at the same time blasted all their golden dreams of title, preferment and grandeur. The story immediately became public, and they were both laughed at, and highly censured by all their acquaintance; so that it required some months to silence the ridicule, before Mr. or Mrs. *Paragraph* could venture again to appear in public.

Reflection convinced Mr. *Paragraph*, that he was much to blame, and that he was in some degree chargeable with his niece's disgrace; but he was astonished, that Lord K——— should thus openly avow the crime he had committed: and as some of our readers may be of the same opinion,

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we shall, in the next chapter, further acquaint them with the real character of that Nobleman, and give them some account of his country residence, which perhaps may not prove disagreeable.

C H A P. VII.

LORD K——'s father died when his Lordship was about twelve years old. He was then at Eton school, where he remained for some time afterwards, till he went to Oxford, and, upon his leaving this last place, made the tour of Europe, and returned when he was about twenty two, in possession of a real estate worth 16000l. a year, and woods and ready money to the amount of two hundred thousand pounds. In the course of his travels, his Lordship seduced the Lady of a foreign Nobleman, and persuaded her to elope with him to England, and from thence to Ireland, where he supported her with

the utmost magnificence and expence for two or three years; and tho' she was universally allowed to be one of the finest women in Europe, her charms were not sufficient to keep the inconstant heart of Lord K——— solely attached to her. His intrigues and amours became too conspicuous to be concealed from her; and she only desired Lord K——— would permit her to retire to his country seat, where she might enjoy herself in those rural amusements, which she delighted in; and that she would not attempt the least restraint on his pleasures.

This proposal was readily agreed to by his Lordship; for although the fervor of his passion was entirely abated for this agreeable Lady, he treated

treated her, in every other respect, with all that decorum, politeness, and every other mark of distinction, that was due to her birth, rank and great accomplishments; and the place she chose for her retreat was Rockingham.

It is really a difficult task to attempt a description of this place. Lord K———'s father had expended upwards of sixty thousand pounds in building there one of the finest palaces in Europe, with suitable offices, and other conveniences. It is situated in the middle of a most delightful country, and nature has been more profuse in her bounties to this enchanting spot, than to any other perhaps in the universe. Through the

gardens runs a large river of the finest water, which discharges itself into a large lake, surrounded by several high hills, covered with pines, oak, and other woods, for several miles: which affords a prospect diversified and beautiful. The lake is several miles broad, and on it his Lordship has built two very elegant ships of war in miniature, and by art has raised an island or peninsula, the exact model of *Gibraltar*. In the summer season he frequently entertains his company on this fine sheet of water, and while the ships regularly besiege this little garrison, which is defended by a number of small pieces of cannon, which are very regularly and beautifully played off in it's defence, the musick, warlike instruments, fire-works,

works, &c. form sounds and diversions that are perfectly enchanting.

To this *paradise* Lord K—— conveyed Miss Faulkner, and on her arrival introduced her to Lady *Valeria*, (which was the name of the foreign Lady already mentioned) who received her with every mark of respect and esteem, as from the great complaisance, which his Lordship shewed to his fair stranger, this lady concluded Miss Faulkner was more than a common acquisition to the *number* of those unfortunate beauties, who had visited this mansion during her residence here.

You must not be surprized, gentle reader! at the mention of *numbers*,

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that

that had visited this mansion of seduction and prostitution; for numbers, indeed, of innocent pure virgins were here frequently sacrificed, and robbed of their innocence. For such was the unbridled passion of this unfortunate Nobleman, that he constantly kept in his pay a whole troop of abandoned, profligate old women, who travelled, in different disguises, through all parts of the kingdom, and wherever they saw any prey worthy his Lordship's appetite, they immediately began their plan of seduction and procuration, for which purpose they were constantly furnished with large sums of money, and never differed about the price; but if that failed, they reported their endeavours, with a description,

scription of the object, when his Lordship either personally attended, or sent more proper or capable persons on the enterprize. By these means, and the fruits of his own industry, he never wanted a variety of these victims, who were seduced to this house, and there dressed in all the gaudy pomp that can dazzle the weak minds of such innocents.

And for the preparing of these unfortunates for his embraces, a like number of infernal matrons constantly attended in his house, who gave them such instructions and pious documents, that his Lordship had no more *trouble than he desired* in the accomplishment of his unbounded wishes; nor was it uncommon with him, *in one night*, to

debauch two or three of these deluded wretches, who, from the treatment they at first received on their initiation, fine cloaths, delicacies, and the pleasures with which they were intoxicated, imagined they were landed in paradise.

Their pleasures were, however, of a very short duration ; for his Lordship very seldom visited any of them a second night, unless it were an uncommon beauty indeed, and then the continuance of a week was an amazing proof of his constancy : such of them however, as were afraid or ashamed to return to their friends or parents, he sent to a *Seraglio*, which he kept, for that purpose, on the borders of the beautiful lake above mentioned.

To

To others of them he gave considerable sums of money, so much at least as generally contented them *for what they had lost*; and many he had married to his servants and tenants, to whom he generally gave two or three hundred pounds as a portion, which, with his former knowledge of the bride, was an ample fortune.

It may be supposed, that his Lordship kept this *Seraglio* for his own gratification, as it was supported at a prodigious expence. There seldom were less than fifty or sixty unfortunate girls contained in it; all of whom were attended and supplied, not only with all the necessaries, but all the luxuries of life; a number of women servants were kept to wait on them;

them; and as the greatest part of them were generally pregnant, physicians, apothecaries, and midwives, were also constantly employed; nor was the smallest necessary or convenience wanting to any of them. This is mentioned in common justice to his Lordship; for though he constantly visited and inspected into the management of this *Seraglio*, when in the country, he was seldom or never known to trespass on the sanctity of the place, or any of it's inhabitants, after they had once taken up their residence there.

What then, will the reader say, could induce him to keep up such an expensive establishment? It was really and truly for the accommodation

dation of his friends. His Lordship spent the greatest part of the year in the country, and, besides a number of gentlemen that occasionally visited at his house, he gave a public hunt once every month, and sometimes once every week in the season. His general rule was to invite every gentleman that hunted to dine with him, and consequently to sleep at his house; and as to those that he was more intimately acquainted with, or chose to compliment, he generally asked them if they chose *a bedfellow*, which being usually answered in the affirmative, a servant was ordered to attend his guest to the *Seraglio*, where he might chuse for himself; and when he had made his option, he returned to his Lordship, and the object of his choice was immediately

immediately conveyed to his Lordship's house; and when the gentleman retired, he found the Lady of his choice in bed, perhaps dreading, instead of impatiently expecting, his arrival: and according to his Lordship's particular esteem, or as a distinguished mark of respect, every gentleman had a right of precedency in this visit to the *Seraglio*.

○ In further vindication of his Lordship's character, it will here be also necessary to observe, that none of those ladies durst, upon any account whatever, accept of the smallest favour, gratuity, or present, from any of his Lordship's guests, on pain of immediate expulsion; unless any of his friends became enamoured of
his

his bed-fellow, and desired to take her into keeping, which if the lady relished, his Lordship always consented to, and she was directly struck out of the books of the convent, and sent to such quarters as her lover thought proper.

As to the consequences of those nocturnal embraces, his Lordship, as has been observed, employed every needful assistance; and the number of children, annually produced from this intercourse, were carefully sent to proper nurses, and maintained at his Lordship's expence, to the great benefit of the community, and the increase of his Majesty's subjects.

However

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However extravagant this account of Lord K—— may appear, to those who have not before heard of or known his Lordship, it is literally true, and in this very situation was his household at the time Miss Faulkner arrived there; but as we do not intend to introduce her into the *Seraglio*, or put her on the same footing with the wretched medley already mentioned, we shall defer what farther remains to be said of her reception at Rockingham, to the next chapter.

C H A P. VIII.

Notwithstanding the depravity of Lord K——'s fancy, no man had a higher notion of *delicacy*, in his sense of the word; that is, he placed his highest felicity in the certainty of his being a real object of desire with those he most ardently wished to enjoy; nor would he on any consideration force the inclinations, or use the least compulsion in the gratification of his wishes. When, therefore, he happened to encounter any young woman above the common class, which was his particular delight, his whole study was to please, and render himself perfectly agreeable, which he thought absolutely

absolutely necessary to render his enjoyment perfectly compleat; nor had he, in all his various adventures, ever met with an object, in every respect, so suited to his fancy and taste as Miss Faulkner: and, as he had now reduced the unfortunate Lady *Valeria* to the detested office of assisting or administering to his debaucheries, we may readily conclude, that every invention, every species of luxurious entertainment and mode of intoxication, was employed to amuse, delight, and subdue the present object of his flame. The first and second day, after her arrival, were spent in various amusements and sports; and although Miss Faulkner could not but foresee and apprehend the consequences of her present

present situation, yet she could not help admiring and approving the delicacy and politeness of his Lordship's conduct, and she was lost between apprehension, love, and admiration!—for Lord K——— had in his address, what some poet finely describes —

- “ ——— that prevailing gentle art,
- “ That can with a resistless charm impart
- “ The loosest wishes to the chastest heart ;
- “ Raise such a conflict, kindle such a fire,
- “ Between declining virtue and desire,
- “ ’Till the poor vanquish’d maid dissolves
away,
- “ In dreams all night, in sighs and tears all
day.”

Lord K——— was a perfect master of this art, and had too often succeeded in his designs by the practice of it, when he knew all other
methods

methods must fail him. He was convinced this mode of address was absolutely necessary with women of education, and would prevail, where rusticity, broad expression and forward obtrusion, would give offence, and render the transgressor odious and detested.

By such insinuations he had now entirely subdued the heart of Miss Faulkner, so that she only breathed, or rather sighed, languishment and desire. The second night after her arrival, he was determined to grant her no further respite; and accordingly gave orders for every preparation for the bridal bed, except the formal ceremony of marriage, which he utterly detested. He had requested

Lady

Lady *Valeria* to be particularly attentive in her instructions, and also in administering a certain potion of such ingredients, as would oblige his charming victim to obey *Love's first summons*.

Miss Faulkner was accordingly conveyed to a magnificent chamber, adorned and furnished with every thing that could please the most refined taste and imagination ; but

*Nor Hymen, nor the graces here preside,
Nor Juno to befriend the blooming bride ;
But fiends with funeral brands the process led,
And furies waited at the genial bed.*

CROXAL.

These lines are so immediately applicable to the infernal wretches employed on the present, and many prior
E occasions,

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occasions, that they must convey a lively picture of those fiends who led the devoted Miss Faulkner to this scene of her ruin; but she had no time, or opportunity for reflection. Lord K—— immediately followed the obnoxious train, and no sooner was she undressed and in bed, than she found herself in the arms of her dearly beloved Lord.

The *banquet* was too delicious to relate——

So powerful! so inexhaustible were the charms of Miss Faulkner, that his Lordship's flame was rather encreased than diminished by enjoyment; and the next day they arose, only to recount those extatic raptures which *words cannot express*; but which they, the happy pair, *panted to renew*. In short, days, nights, weeks and months passed

passed in this elysium, and Lord K—— not only thought, but was convinced, *he was the happiest amongst mortals*; and to fill up the measure of his delight, Miss Faulkner in due time declared her pregnancy. There was now no bounds to his Lordship's happiness. The moment he was acquainted with this circumstance, he ordered a compleat set of the most valuable jewels to be made, which he presented to the idol of his soul, and for upwards of nine or ten months, during which they remained in the country, this inconstant Lord never once transgressed the bounds of fidelity; so devoted was he to the charms of Miss Faulkner.

About the end of ten months Miss Faulkner was delivered of a fine boy,

to the great joy of this noble family,
which however lived but a few days.
Miss Faulkner had suffered inexpressible torture in her labour, and her life was in imminent danger for several days, during which Lord K—— could hardly be kept a moment out of her room, and was like a frantic man during her illness. The death of the child was a mortal blow to the happiness of both it's parents. They were both inconsolable, and on the re-establishment of Miss Faulkner's health, his Lordship resolved to return to Dublin, which she readily agreed to, as the country had now lost all it's charms for her, nor could she endure the place where she had lost the tender pledge of her virgin love.

C H A P. IX.

LORD K—— and Miss Faulkner returned to Dublin in the winter, and took up their residence in his Lordship's house; and as it was now publicly known, that his Lordship had this fair prize in keeping, he did not scruple to appear with her in all public places; and the splendor of her dress and equipage, added to the beauties of her person, created her numberless enemies amongst her own sex. Indeed his Lordship was profuse and lavish in his favours to her; and it was currently reported and believed, that he had not expended less than ten thousand pounds in cloaths and jewels for her person in the space of one year.

In the meridian of her glory, and at a time when she and every body imagined that his Lordship was more firmly attached to her than ever, an incident happened, that blasted all her hopes and enjoyments.

About this time it was that Lord K—— became acquainted with the celebrated Miss J——n, daughter to a gentleman of fortune, and much esteemed in the polite world. Miss J—— was deemed one of the greatest beauties of the age, and one of the most accomplished of women. No sooner had his Lordship seen her, than he entertained some hopes of adding her to the number of his conquests—nor was he long in suspense. Miss J—— was grown

to the age of two and twenty, and as her father had lived very gaily and expensively, he could not afford his daughter a fortune, suitable to the expectations her rank in life and personal charms flattered her with. She was amorous and sprightly, and with very little sollicitation agreed to elope with Lord K——, which she did a few days afterwards, in broad day, and in presence of some hundreds of spectators; and the elopement was performed in the following manner.

Her father's house was immediately adjacent to one of the most public walks, or places of resort, in the metropolis; and it was previously agreed on between Miss J—— and Lord K——, that he should

order his equipage to attend near the walks that afternoon ; that he should appear about five o'clock, and as soon as he saw her approach, he was to get into his chariot, and that she should follow and immediately drive off ; all which was executed as agreed on. And although her father saw her go into Lord K——'s chariot, he was not able to prevent their escape, his Lordship having as usual ordered his postillions to drive as fast as the horses could go ; and before Miss J——'s father could get his horses ready to pursue them, they had, by taking cross roads and travelling most part of the night, eluded his search.

They at length arrived at an inn about thirty miles from town, where,
without

without any ceremony, they stript and went to bed, totally indifferent about what the world might say of them, where we shall leave them to indulge a few hours only, and return to Miss J——'s father, who never stopt riding the whole night, and having got intelligence of the fugitives in many places on the road, he at length came to the very house where they were in bed.

This gentleman had been an officer of distinction in the army, and tho' now advanced in years, was a man of spirit, and extremely tenacious of the honour of his family; and tho' attended but with one servant, he was determined to oblige Lord K—— to repair the injury he had done his

E 5 daughter,

daughter, by instantly marrying her: for this he put a case of loaded pistols in his pockets, and while Lord K——'s servants were regaling themselves after their fatigue, Mr. J—— found out the very room where his Lordship lay, and having suddenly forced open the door, he found his Lordship and his daughter, *in love's closest fierce embrace.*

The sight of so unexpected and unwelcome a visitor roused Lord K——, when Mr. J. presented a pistol to his breast, and swore vehemently, that he would that instant blow his Lordship's brains out, if he did not immediately rise, and restore the honour of his family, by marrying his daughter. Lord K——
in

in vain expostulated with the enraged Mr. J. for a few minutes, and what might have happened is hard to determine, if one of his Lordship's servants, an old faithful Swiss, who had lived with him some years, had not at that moment rushed into the room, and presented a blunderbuss to Mr. J——'s head, swearing, in his turn, that he would blow his brains out, if he did not permit his Lord to rise and dress. This gave his Lordship some time to think, when he assured Mr. J. that if he would go out of the room until he dressed, he would wait on him immediately. The honest Swiss obliged Mr. J—— to comply with this proposal; and having withdrawn into another room,

Lord K——— followed him directly, after assuring Miss J——— that he would not give her up, nor suffer any violence to be offered her by her father, or any other person, at the peril of his life.

As soon as Lord K——— entered the room, where Mr. J——— waited for him, Mr. J——— asked his Lordship, whether he intended to marry his daughter; to which his Lordship replied, It was the very first time he had ever thought about it; and whatever his intentions might be on that head, he was determined that compulsion should not influence them. He did not attempt to justify his conduct with respect to his daughter, but that he was not to be intimidated

timidated either by force or menaces. Upon which, Mr. J—— asked his Lordship, If his pistols were ready? and his Lordship having answered in the affirmative, Mr. J—— stood on the other side of the room, and fired one of his pistols at Lord K——, which having missed him, his Lordship declined his fire, but told Mr. J——, that he hoped he was convinced he was not to be bullied, or compelled into any reparation for what had passed between his daughter and him. He vowed the greatest regard for her, and added, that he could not be provoked to offer any violence to the parent of one so dear to him; and then begged Mr. J—— would return home, and wait a few days for the result of their future progress.

Mr. J———n found that Lord K———h, was a man of the most undaunted courage, equally cool, enterprizing, and resolute, and that force would not do with him; and after endeavouring to extort a promise of marriage from his Lordship, which he utterly declined or refused to give, and seeing all his Lordship's servants armed, and in readiness, he found it would be in vain to attempt the recovery of his daughter, and was therefore obliged to depart without her.

On Lord K———h's return to Miss J———n, he found her in the arms of two or three women servants in fits, and absolutely deprived of her senses; for when she heard the report

report of the pistol, which her father had fired, she was certain that either her Lord or her father was killed, nor could she be persuaded of the contrary, until the return of Lord K——h, whose voice was like a cordial to her spirits, and helped to revive her. His Lordship convinced her that her father was returned home, and that they were both unhurt. This account of what had passed perfectly restored her; she soon recovered her former vivacity; and they set out in search of new adventures; where we shall leave them, and return to the afflicted and deserted Miss Faulkner.

C H A P. X.

THE elopement of so conspicuous a character as Miss J——n with Lord K——h, and in so public a manner, could not long remain a secret, nor was Miss Faulkner one of the last that heard of it; for early the next morning, Mr. K—, a brother of his Lordship's, called upon her, and in the greatest hurry and confusion told her the whole story; and added, that he feared his brother's life was in the most imminent danger, as Mr. J——n had the night before pursued his Lordship, with a party of men all armed; and that, as he knew the temper and resolution of both

both parties, he concluded, that many lives were likely to be lost on both sides; but could not learn what rout they had taken. He, however, summoned all his own servants, and several of his Lordship's, and immediately set out in quest of them.

In this melancholy condition was our fair sufferer left, and all her hopes and enjoyments blasted by this fatal adventure. She really loved Lord K——h, and the apprehensions she was under for his life, for some time, engaged all her thoughts and reflections. But when she considered, that he had deserted her for another, without the least fault to be attributed to her, that his affections were
alienated

alienated from her, that she was now left destitute without any means of support, and despised and rejected by Mr. *Paragraph*, on whom she originally depended; resentment, jealousy, and despair, alternately seized her, and she was reduced almost to distraction; nor had she, for three whole days, heard one syllable of what became of Lord K——h, or the detested companion of his flight.

On the fourth day, however, his Lordship's brother returned, and delivered her a letter from her Lord, acquainting her, that business of importance obliged him to leave the kingdom, and that in a few days he intended to be in Paris; that as the
time

time of his return was altogether uncertain, he had given his brother directions in what manner to provide for her, and that she might ever depend on his friendship and sincerest regards.

Every word in this letter was a death wound to the tender heart of Miss Faulkner, nor could she be prevailed on to pay the least regard to the future provision that was intended for her, and proposed at that time by Lord K——h's brother. Her case was truly pitiable; and tho' this young gentleman was, by no means, of so generous or humane a disposition as his brother, yet he was sensibly affected with the real anguish,
grief

grief and despair, which were conspicuously settled in every feature of her lovely face.

After many proposals that were made to her, she was firmly resolved not to remain in that kingdom, where she had suffered so much public disgrace; and she declared her intention of setting out immediately for London: upon which Mr. K———, furnished her with bills to the amount of 300 l. which was all she would accept of, and only some part of her cloaths and jewels; and with this pittance she arrived in London in a few days, very much dejected in her spirits, and in a very poor state of health.

Certain

Certain it is, that if this separation had happened in the immediate presence of Lord K——h, or had he not been so critically circumstanced at that time, that he was really obliged to leave Ireland, the generosity of his own heart, and the great regard which he had for Miss Faulkner, would have induced him to make an ample settlement on her for her life, as he had done for others, who were not, by any means, so well entitled to it as she was. But, at the pressing solicitation of his brother, and many other of his friends, he was prevailed on to make a tour through France and Italy, to avoid any further mischief, and until the storm raised by this last adventure should be a little blown over. He therefore desired
his

his brother to make only a temporary provision for this lady, until his return, not in the least suspecting that her spirit or resentment would so suddenly operate, or determine her resolutions until his return.

C H A P. XI.

DURING this transaction, Colonel J——n, the brother of Miss J——n, was in London; but Lord K——h had not been many days at Paris, when he received a letter from Colonel J——n, in which the Colonel insisted, that Lord K——h should, immediately upon receipt of that letter, return to Ireland, where he would meet him, and expect the usual satisfaction, for the injury done his sister. Miss J——n was present when Lord K——h received this letter, knew her brother's writing, and immediately suspected the contents; which dreadfully alarmed her;

her ; for she dearly loved the Colonel ; and it is natural to suppose Lord K——— was equally dear to her. She therefore exerted all her influence with Lord K——— to decline the challenge, as she had every reason to dread it's consequences ; but all she could urge was ineffectual. His Lordship represented to her the folly of declining the interview ; that he knew the Colonel to be a man of courage and resolution, and that if his Lordship could be *poltroon* enough to refuse the meeting he desired, they must expect he would pursue them to the most distant part of the globe ; that a meeting was therefore absolutely necessary, and that he was determined at every event to give him an interview as soon as possible ; but
at

at the same time pledged his faith to Miss J——n, that he would, by every means consistent with his honour, avoid doing her brother any bodily hurt. This point settled, it was next determined, that Miss J——n should remain at *Paris* until his Lordship's return, or until she heard the event of this dreadful meeting, as she trembled at the thoughts of seeing her brother more than at death itself. Now it was, that she began seriously to reflect on her folly, and the disgrace she had brought upon a family, before unblemished, and valued for their unspotted honour; which, together with her separation from Lord K——, whom she never expected to see again, filled her mind with the most gloomy apprehensions.

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Lord

Lord K—— then retired to another room, where he made a will so far as it respected Miss J——n, wherein he charged all his estates with the payment of twenty thousand pounds to Miss J——n, in six months after his decease. With this paper sealed up he returned to Miss J——n, and desired she would take care of it, until she heard further from him; and after giving her unlimited credit at his banker's for her present occasions, he took the most tender and affectionate leave of her, and set out from *Paris* that very afternoon, of which he gave the Colonel notice by express,

Lord K—— arrived in Dublin a few days before Colonel J——n;
and

and when he was informed of the precipitate flight of Miss Faulkner, and the poor provision which had been made for her by his brother, he was touched to the very soul with compunction and concern for her; and when he found, that all enquiries after her were ineffectual, and that she had not left any directions where she might be wrote to, or sent after, and that she had not taken one half of either her cloaths or jewels, he could not sufficiently admire her spirit and generosity, nor could he help approving her resentment at his inconstancy and infidelity. He determined, however, to use all possible endeavours to find out her residence in London; and as soon as the important business, in which he was

then engaged, should be settled, he resolved to reward both her generosity and sufferings.

As soon as Colonel J——n arrived in Dublin, he sent notice to Lord K—— that he should expect to meet his Lordship next morning at an appointed place a few miles out of town, and that he would be attended by Lord A——, a particular acquaintance of Lord K——'s, who was punctual to this appointment, attended by Mr. K——, his brother. As soon as these champions were met, Lord K—— desired to know Colonel J——n's commands for him; upon which the Colonel asked his Lordship, if he intended to marry his sister. Lord
K——

K——— replied, he verily believed he never would marry, and that a thought or a word on that subject had never passed between him and his sister; that he did not mean to throw the least reflection on Miss J——, but that, in his own vindication, he thought it then particularly necessary to declare, that he never had, nor ever would make any promise of that nature to any woman whatsoever; that if he had made any such promise to Miss J——, compulsion was not necessary to induce him to perform it; but as he had never made her any such promise, and as it never had been mentioned between them, he did not hold himself in honour bound to any such engagement, and therefore would not give the most distant

hope of it. And, after some other conversation on the subject, his Lordship jocularly asked the Colonel, if any one of his Lordship's sisters (and he had then three, very fine young ladies) should take it in her head to elope with him, without previously obtaining his promise of marrying her, whether he thought his Lordship would be mad enough to insist on his fighting him for indulging her; and then declared, upon his honour, that he would not. His Lordship then very judiciously remarked, that there was a wide difference between seducing a young lady under promises of that nature, and without; that he did not think either the laws of the land, or even the laws of honour, required so great a sacrifice as a man's life,

life, for flying with a charming girl, with her own free will and consent; and that if any man was to take one of his sisters on these conditions, he would not think himself in any degree obliged to call her lover to any account whatsoever for it: but, on the other hand, if any of them should be seduced under false promises, that he would, at the peril of his life, oblige her seducer to perform such promises as were made her, previous to her elopement, and that was as much as the laws of either justice or honour required.

Lord K——h had given but too many proofs of his courage, to suppose he made use of these arguments from motives of fear: on the

contrary, he then assured Colonel J——n, that if he was not satisfied with his principles, or if he thought that he was guilty of any sinister or unfair dealing with Miss J——n, he was ready to give him whatever satisfaction he desired; but that his regard for the Colonel's personal safety as well as his own, (as the fate of bullets was very uncertain) obliged him to give his opinion, and state the case in the manner before-mentioned, and he requested the Colonel would duly consider it, before they engaged in so serious a business as they were prepared for.

Colonel J——n was as remarkable for the excellence of his understanding

ing and his good sense, as he was for his generosity and courage, and was struck with the force of his Lordship's arguments, as well as his open, candid behaviour; and Lord A—— being also strongly of Lord K——'s opinion; the Colonel declared, he did not think himself justified either in attempting Lord K——h's life, or risking his own, from what had happened; but with great complacency and good humour told Lord K——h, that his father was inconsolable for the loss of his daughter, whom he loved to distraction, and that he would esteem it as a favour, if his Lordship would restore her to her disconsolate parents; but that, for his own part, he would never speak to her, or take any

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notice of her. This request Lord K——h thought himself obliged to comply with; and thus the combatants parted, giving signal proofs of their good sense, as well as of the most undaunted courage.

C H A P. XII.

LORD K——h had no sooner finished this important business, than he set out for London, in his return to Paris, determined, if possible, to recover Miss Faulkner, and to restore Miss J——n to her parents, agreeable to the promise he had made the Colonel. With this intention, on his arrival in London, emissaries of various kinds were employed and dispatched through all parts of the town, and several days were spent in fruitless enquiries for our heroine. —She had taken lodgings in the neighbourhood of Grosvenor-Square, the most retired and private part of the town; and being

an entire stranger, without one single acquaintance, she lived in the most frugal manner with a widow lady, to whose house she had been recommended; and seldom stirred out of doors but in her company, sometimes to the play, and at other times to take a walk in Hyde-Park; and in this obscurity she had passed several months, so that it was almost impossible to find out her retreat.— Lord K——h had spent a whole week in London, without receiving the least account of her; he continued several persons in employ for the same purpose, during his absence, and set out for Paris.

We must not, however, too hastily conclude, that Lord K——'s immediate

mediate return to Paris, proceeded from the violence of his passion for Miss J——n, or that it was in preference to the pleasure the discovery of Miss Faulkner would have given him. It was quite the reverse. Ambition prompted his Lordship more than love, in his adventure with the former. He never entertained for her any of that real tenderness and regard, which he felt for Miss Faulkner; and now that she appeared lost to him, all his former passion for this lovely fugitive revived with additional ardour, and the apprehensions he was under lest any fatal accident had happened to her, filled his mind with a concern and anxiety which he never before felt, and he was resolved to recover her at any expence

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expenſe or trouble, on his return to London.

THEſe were his principal inducements for immediately ſetting out for Paris before he had found her; and the promiſe he had made Colonel J——n to reſtore his ſiſter, was another motive for his ſpeedy return to that Lady. She was equally rejoiced at his ſafety, and the attention which he paid her, in ſo ſuddenly removing her fears and apprehenſions; but after a few days, when he acquainted her with the promiſe he had made to her brother, ſhe was confounded, and touched with the ſevereſt remorse.

Lord

Lord K———— however assured her, that the Colonel had given him his word of honour, that she should meet with the kindest reception from her parents, and that not a syllable of what had passed would ever be mentioned to her, provided she returned to them immediately; and to convince her that these were the sentiments of her father, he advised her to write a penitential letter to him, and request an answer directed to London, where they should receive it on their return to Ireland, as they would leave Paris in a few days.

Miss J————n was none of those inflexible ladies, that languish out the remainder of their lives, and dye of broken hearts for the loss of their
lovers.

lovers. When she found there was no alternative, and that Lord K—— was determined to part with her, she consoled herself, wrote as he desired to her father, and after a few days spent in viewing all the curiosities at Paris, set out for London, as chearful and happy as the nature of her situation would permit.

On their arrival in London, Lord K—— resolved to take separate apartments for Miss J——n, as well to keep up some appearance in her favour, as to prevent the further resentment of Miss Faulkner, if he should be so happy as to find her. Elegant lodgings were accordingly taken for Miss J—— in Pall Mall, where a handsome equipage was ordered

ordered to attend her, with two footmen in her own livery; and as Lord K—— had purchased her a great many very rich and elegant dresses at Paris, she cut a very conspicuous figure. This, his Lordship knew, was her darling passion, and he was determined to indulge it to any excess, in order to divert her from more pensive reflections. She was now in as high spirits as ever: She had received the most pressing letter from her father to return home, and that every thing should be buried in utter oblivion; but she could not think of leaving London, till she had seen all the public diversions, and indulged her natural vanity in the display of her charming person, dress and equipage.

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The first night she appeared at the play, she drew the attention of numbers of both sexes. She was really an elegant figure, and the richness of her cloaths and jewels, together with the novelty of her face, attracted most of the bloods and bucks from all parts of the house, amongst whom was a young gentleman from Ireland, who had seen her some years before in Dublin, and knew her brother and family; but, having been out of that kingdom for some years, had not heard any thing of her adventure with Lord K——, who was then also in the house, but purposely avoided going into the same box with Miss J—— for the reasons already mentioned. Mr. Fleming, for that was the gentleman's

gentleman's name, who was now particularly struck with Miss J——'s figure and appearance, seeing her alone and unattended, resolved immediately to make himself known to her: but as this accidental meeting is of some consequence to Miss J——, and cannot be related in this chapter, we shall defer it to the next, that the reader and author may have a little respite, which one of them, at least, is this moment in need of.

C H A P. XIII.

IN the foregoing chapter it was observed, that Mr. Fleming was very much struck with the beauty and elegance of Miss J——, and that he resolved to approach her fair shrine. He did so, and was immediately recognized by her. Mr. Fleming was a young gentleman of very genteel family and connections, and had frequently visited at her father's, when a student in the college of Dublin. He had just entered into possession of his paternal estate of the value of 1500*l.* a year, was but a few weeks returned to England from his travels, and was, what may be called, an agreeable young fellow, and perfectly well dressed.

Mr. Fleming was particularly pleased with the affable and polite reception he met with from Miss J——, nor was her vanity less gratified by the assiduity and profound respect of her visitor, so that they became not only very intimate, but greatly delighted with each other's company; and as soon as the entertainment was over, Mr. Fleming politely requested Miss J——n would permit him to attend her home, which was readily granted.

When they had quitted the box, Miss J—— requested Mr. Fleming would call her servants who were in waiting, when he was very agreeably surprized with the appearance of two footmen in very elegant liveries; and
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an equipage finished in the very first taste, in which Mr. Fleming was conveyed to Miss J——'s lodgings.

It is here to be observed, that Lord K—— took very early notice of the profound respect which Mr. Fleming had shewn to Miss J—— at the play house, and enquired of some Irish gentlemen that were with him, who, and what Mr. Fleming was; which being truly acquainted with, he was extremely pleased, as it would have given him the highest pleasure to promote this lady's happiness or preferment, and that too at any expence, provided he was once disengaged from her. He had promised to sup with her that very night, and had ordered a very elegant

elegant repast from Almack's; but lest his appearance might give Mr. Fleming the least cause of suspicion, or interrupt what he ardently wished to promote, he went into the Shakespeare, and wrote a card to Miss J——, excusing himself from supping with her, at the same time hinting that he knew the gentleman that attended her home, and desiring that she would make the best use of her time, until he should wait on her the next morning, and give her further instructions what part to act.

Miss J——n was extremely well pleased with Mr. Fleming's behaviour and conversation, and on the receipt of Lord K——h's card, doubled her assiduity to charm him.

him. Supper was immediately ordered; which was extremely elegant, supplied with the first wines, and followed by a rich dessert. Mr. Fleming was quite transported with the affability and sprightliness of Miss J——; and having stayed with her till after one in the morning, took the most respectful leave of her, having first obtained permission to attend her to the opera the next evening.

After the departure of Mr. Fleming, Miss J——n entered into a more strict examination of herself, her situation and circumstances, than she had ever before had either reflection or opportunity to do; and, upon full debate and deliberation, she found,

found, that Mr. Fleming was not totally disagreeable to her; that if she returned to her father, her adventure with Lord K——h was already known, and would become more public; that she would not only be pointed at, and insulted by many of her own sex, whom she had formerly looked down upon, for their gravity and deformity; and that, in all human probability, she never should be able to get a husband in Ireland. All those weighty causes and considerations her thereunto moving; she was resolved instantly to subdue and vanquish Mr. Fleming, and bring him into the holy bands of matrimony;—and with this pious determination she went to sleep.

The next morning Lord K——h waited on her to breakfast; and being informed how matters went on the preceding night, that Mr. Fleming was to attend her to the opera, and finally of her resolution to noose him; his Lordship was transported with her spirit and stratagem; and to convince her of the great regard and esteem he entertained for her, called for the sealed paper, which he had delivered to her at Paris, opened it in her presence, and read to her the contents.

Miss J——n, who had been hitherto an utter stranger to the purport of this paper, which had been so long in her custody, was astonished at the generosity of this noble
 Lord,

Lord, and expressed her gratitude for this uncommon instance of his affection for her. His Lordship then declared to her, it was his solemn determination never to marry, but that as he had been accessary to a misfortune, which in the nature of things, and according to the notions of mankind, must affect her in her future prospects, he thought himself bound to repair any injury she had sustained through his means, in the best manner in his power; and therefore, assured her, that if she could prevail on Mr. Fleming to marry her, he would instantly raise 10,000 l. and present it to her as a portion, suitable to her quality and merit.

Miss J———n could not be insensible of the greatness of his Lordship's generosity and goodness in this proposal, nor was she wanting in proper acknowledgements. It was then agreed, that his Lordship should visit her but seldom, and in as private a manner as possible; that if Mr. Fleming, should make any declaration in her favour, she was to inform him, that the design of her present visit to London, was to receive a legacy of 10,000 l. that had been left to her by a relation, who died in the East-Indies, which she expected every hour to be paid her; and that as soon as she had settled that business, she intended to return to Ireland directly; but that her return there would afford her
very

very little happiness, as her father insisted she should marry a person every way beneath, and disagreeable to her, though he was superior in point of fortune, and that she expected her brother every day in London to expedite her return.

This deep concerted scheme being thus plann'd, Lord K—— and Miss J—— parted equally pleased, and with mutual promises of confidence, advice, and every other assistance for completing their project.

Mr. Fleming the next night, according to his appointment, attended Miss J—— to the opera. She was now resolved to play off all

her artillery upon this unsuspecting young gentleman, and her designs succeeded even beyond her expectations, for he became so violently enamoured of this artful adventurer, that, on the sixth day after their acquaintance, he made a formal declaration of his passion for her, which she received with the utmost *seeming* surprize and confusion; and, agreeable to the plan that had been concerted, introduced her legacy, her father's cruelty, and her brother's appearance to enforce his commands.

These were stimulatives that Mr. Fleming did not want, for he was really and *bona fide* in love with Miss J——, and would probably have

have married her without once mentioning her fortune, as he knew her family, and doubted not but her father would give her a very genteel portion, if such a thing had taken place. But when he learned that she was in danger of being sacrificed to the embraces of a man obnoxious to her, and that she had 10,000 l. totally independent, he thought it was madness to risk the chance of permitting her to return, until Hymen had made them inseparably one. In short, he became so importunate, and Miss J—— became so pleased with his importunity, and *so fearful of being noosed to the monster of her hatred*, that in a few days after she was prevailed with to let Mr. Fleming obtain a

licence for their marriage, the day of which was fixed, and every thing ready for the union of this happy pair. Lord K—— was no stranger to all these preparations; and, agreeable to the promise he had made his *quondam* fair, he procured the 10,000 l. which he deposited in a banker's hands in her name; and delivered to her the banker's receipt for it. In the mean time Mr. Fleming very generously had made a settlement of 500 l. a year on Miss J——, payable out of his estates, in case she should survive him, which he produced to her, attended by his lawyer, and executed in her presence, when she as generously delivered to him her banker's receipt for 10,000 l.; and the

the next day they were married in St. James's Church, immediately set out for Ireland, and arrived there perfectly happy in each other, where we shall now leave them to their future destiny, and return to Miss Faulkner, whom it is time to remember.

C H A P. XIV.

IT would be doing Lord K—— the highest injustice to suppose, that the business of the foregoing chapter, however anxious he was to see it compleated, diverted his attention from making the necessary enquiries after Miss Faulkner, for he was really as assiduous in his researches for her as ever, but to as little purpose; and tho' he used every means for discovering her, he never could obtain the least intelligence concerning her, which gave him the greatest uneasiness.

Miss Faulkner was not, however, so great a stranger to his Lordship's residence,

residence, as she was to the true sentiments of his heart; for a few days after his arrival in London she saw one of his servants pass by the house she lodged in, which put her into such a tremor and surprize, that she was almost ready to faint. The Lady of the house observed it, and kindly enquired into the cause: but though Miss Faulkner answered her evasively, she was resolved to know whether his Lordship was in town or not, and for that purpose would have pursued the servant immediately, and watch where he went to, but was so affected at his sudden appearance, apprehending he might be in quest of her, that she had not power to stir, till he was quite out of her sight. Convinced

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however that, if his Lordship was in town, she should see him in some of the public places of resort, she that very night went to both play houses and to the opera, but could not observe him. She therefore went the next night to Drury Lane, and there beheld her dear Lord in one of the side boxes. She was now seated in the gallery, and altho' she was so anxious to get sight of Lord K——, she by no means intended to speak to him, or that he should see her. She therefore set a proper person to watch him from the play house home, and by that means soon found, that Miss J—— was in London, where she resided, and the splendid manner in which she was kept; all which confirmed her in
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the opinion, that his Lordship was attached to her in the strongest manner, and that she held him by the firmest bonds of affection.

However mortifying this account was to Miss Faulkner, she had too much spirit, either to interrupt their enjoyment, or to upbraid Lord K——h with his infidelity, and was resolved to bear it with fortitude and resignation. But as she had never seen Miss J——n, she was now determined to indulge her curiosity; and, unfortunately for her, went to a house directly opposite to that lady's lodgings, the very morning she was to be married to Mr. Fleming; where she waited her appearance with all that anxiety, agitation,

agitation, and dread, which it is possible for a woman, in her situation, to entertain at the sight of her rival.

Miss Faulkner had not been placed in the window opposite, above half an hour, when Miss J——n appeared in all her charms and splendor, and dressed in the most costly and brilliant manner, as a bride. This was too much for Miss Faulkner to bear. She was ready to expire at the sight of this fatal beauty; and as her whole dress, as well as that of her servants, indicated her approaching nuptials, she doubted not, but Miss J——n was on that very day to be made the happy Lady K——h. But as we are generally

generally very desirous to ascertain what, when proved, will give us the most poignant grief, she begged a servant belonging to the house she was in, to step over and ask one of her servants, if the lady was not going to be married; and being answered in the affirmative, she could not support the agonies of her soul any longer, but fainted into the arms of her informer, and relapsed so continually from one fit into another, that a physician was at length called, who pronounced her extremely ill; and ordering a chair, she was brought home to her lodgings, in a situation better conceived than described.

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On her return home she was instantly put into bed, where she remained upwards of three weeks in a violent fever, and most of the time delirious, so that there were very little hopes of her recovery; and although the gentlewoman, in whose house she was, had the greatest regard for her, and they had been extremely intimate, Miss Faulkner had never hinted to her the least part of her history, nor acquainted her with her circumstances; and Miss Faulkner having always dressed very plain, though genteelly, and having lived with the greatest frugality, her hostess concluded that her finances were much lower than they really were, and began to be under great apprehensions, lest she should die in
her

her house, and that she should have the physician, apothecary, and the more dreadful train of undertakers to pay, besides losing the money due to her for board and lodging. She therefore impatiently waited an opportunity of finding Miss Faulkner sufficiently in her senses to be spoke to on such a subject, which she at length obtained, and with great delicacy and discretion asked her if she had got any money in her drawers, as she was quite exhausted by the great expence of her long illness. This reminded our suffering heroine of what she had before entirely forgot or neglected. She therefore immediately gave her keys to Mrs. Preston, for that was the

the good woman's name, and desired she would take whatever she wanted out of her drawers.

Mrs. Preston had always behaved to Miss Faulkner with the greatest respect, and entertained a great esteem for her; but when she went to her drawers, in which she found very near 300 l. besides some jewels of value, and very rich cloaths, she was quite confounded, and began to suspect that Miss Faulkner was a person of distinction, who had met with some misfortunes, which induced her to live in that obscurity; and was confirmed in this opinion from some expressions of that young lady's during her illness, mentioning her dear Lord,
and

and other corroborative circumstances; so that when the doctor next visited his patient, she desired him to double his assiduity, for that she was a person of more consequence than he imagined; and having put five guineas into his hand, he was more confirmed in the belief of what the good woman urged, than he could have been by the Archbishop of Canterbury, without the like *proof* of his sincerity and veracity.

Whether this discovery contributed to the recovery of Miss Faulkner or not, we shall not determine; but certain it is, that Mrs. Preston, as well as the doctor, afterwards attended with double diligence; and
in

in less than a week, she was pronounced to be *out of danger*, though by no means perfectly recovered.

Is it not ^{now} time to know what is become of Lord K-----h?

C H A P. XV.

AT the beginning of the foregoing chapter, we parted from Lord K—— in the greatest concern at the many fruitless enquiries he had made after his fair fugitive; but had he known the situation, to which her anxiety and unextinguished love for him had reduced her, what would not his generous, sympathizing heart have suffered? It was her greatest misfortune, that he could not discover the place of her retreat; for had he then met with her, certain it is, he would have given her the most signal proofs of his love and esteem; and tho' he should not have been able to prevail with her to
return

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return with him to Ireland, and renew their intimacies, he would have made such an ample provision for her, as would have put her beyond the reach of those vicissitudes in life, which it would seem the fates had decreed she should pass thro', before she should be rewarded for her truth, honour and virtue.

A whole month after the departure of Mr. Fleming and his Lady, Lord K—— continued in London, in quest of Miss Faulkner; but finding all his enquiries ineffectual, he concluded she had not left Ireland, and in that belief, he then set out for that kingdom in hopes of getting some intelligence of her there.

On

On his arrival in Dublin, he sent privately to Mr. *Paragraph's* to know whether he could give any intelligence of Miss Faulkner; but that gentleman, with great concern declared, he had never seen or heard from her, since her elopement with Lord K——; soon after which his Lordship retired to his country seat, and was seized with an apoplectic fit, which ended his life and his intrigues in a few minutes.

C H A P. XVI.

THE first account that Miss Faulkner received of Lord K——h's death, was from the public papers, which gave her the greatest concern; for, notwithstanding his Lordship's infidelity, and utter neglect of her, as she imagined, she still loved him to excess, and this so sudden and unexpected an account of his death, filled her with equal grief and surprize: and as she had not yet recovered her health, since her late indisposition, she relapsed, not into so dangerous or violent a distemper as the former, but into a settled melancholy and dejection of spirits, which reduced her almost to

a skeleton, although she was extremely well attended by Mrs. Preston, who used every means in her power to recover her, and treated her with great friendship and tenderness.

In this desponding situation was Miss Faulkner, when she went, one fine day, into Kensington gardens, attended by Mrs. Preston, for the benefit of the air, and a little exercise; and in the walks met Lady Valeria. They were equally surprized and rejoiced at this unexpected meeting, and entered into the most familiar and interesting conversation; in the course of which, Lady Valeria acquainted Miss Faulkner with the whole progress of Miss J——n's adventure

H

with

with Lord K——, and her marriage with Mr. Fleming, which greatly affected her. But when she was informed of the real sentiments of that noble Lord for herself, the uncommon pains he took to find her out both in London and Dublin, and the unhappiness he expressed at his disappointment, all her former love and esteem for him revived, and gave her such exquisite pain, that she could no longer support it, but fell as it were lifeless into the arms of Lady Valeria and Mrs. Preston, who, with much difficulty, got her to the coach, which was waiting for them, and in which Lady Valeria accompanied them home, where she grew somewhat better, but was still overwhelmed with grief.

After

After some little refreshment, Lady Valeria used every means in her power to comfort Miss Faulkner, and convince her of the folly of her present dejection; that there were many who suffered much greater misfortunes and losses than she laboured under, of which she herself was an unhappy instance: and as they had always found the greatest satisfaction in each other's conversation, Miss Faulkner requested Lady Valeria to favour her with her history, which she had never heard, and she doubted not was extremely interesting; to which that agreeable Lady readily consented, as she knew it would entertain and divert her dejected friend, and at the same time convince her, that she was equally an object

of compassion, and more than an equal sufferer, thro' her own folly, and fatal love for Lord K——.

“MY father,” said this Lady,
 “ was one of the first rank
 “ of the nobility of Venice, and I
 “ being his only child, and heir to
 “ a prodigious estate, you may
 “ suppose no expence was spared on
 “ my education ; and before I arrived
 “ at my fourteenth year, many persons
 “ of the most considerable rank and
 “ fortune paid their addresses to me,
 “ and made proposals to my father,
 “ for the honour of his alliance. I
 “ was, without vanity, one of the
 “ greatest beauties in that gay city,
 “ and as much esteemed for my wit,
 “ lively conversation, and good
 “ nature,

“ nature, as for those acquired ac-
 “ complishments, musick, painting,
 “ drawing, &c. which, together with
 “ the immense possessions that were
 “ to descend to me, the high rank
 “ my father held in the state, and
 “ the antiquity of our family, made
 “ all the Venetian nobility vie with
 “ each other in the magnificence of
 “ those diversions and entertain-
 “ ments, which were daily prepared
 “ for me, and for which that coun-
 “ try is more remarkable than any
 “ other in Europe. But in the
 “ whole croud of my admirers,
 “ there was none that ever made
 “ the least impression on my heart:
 “ all were equally indifferent to me.
 “ My father was, however, ex-
 “ tremely desirous of having me
 H 3 married,

“ married, and by himself and my
“ mother had several times requested
“ I would acquaint them, who it
“ was, in the number of my suitors,
“ that appeared most agreeable to
“ me, or I should like best for a hus-
“ band, as they declared they would
“ not in the least influence my
“ choice, provided it should be any
“ of the nobility of unblemished
“ honour; but I assured them, with
“ great truth, that they were all
“ equally indifferent to me, and
“ that I should be solely governed
“ by their advice.

“ My dear parents loved me to
“ dotage, and this condescension,
“ as they deemed it, so affected
“ them, that they repeatedly assured
“ me

“ me their sole happiness depended
“ on seeing me the wife of some
“ noble Lord, whose quality and
“ accomplishments would reward my
“ virtue and filial obedience; but
“ that they were advanced in years,
“ and could not be easy until my
“ happiness was compleated. My
“ father, therefore, informed me,
“ that he had the greatest opinion
“ of the honour and dignity of
“ Count Valeria, a Nobleman of
“ the first Venetian family; and
“ although his fortune was not by
“ any means equal to the possessions
“ that would devolve to me, he was
“ assured his gratitude, for the
“ double advantage conferred upon
“ him, would insure my felicity,
“ and his attention to please me
“ in every thing I desired.

“ Count Valeria had been for
“ some time in the number of my
“ admirers; and tho’ he was then
“ near forty years old, he was per-
“ fectly agreeable in his person, had
“ the most engaging conversation,
“ and was highly commended and
“ respected for his probity and
“ benevolence in the many important
“ stations, which he had filled in the
“ state and in the senate; and as I
“ had not the least pre-engagement
“ or particular regard for any other
“ person, and was extremely de-
“ sirous to obey and oblige my
“ dearest parents, I readily consented
“ to receive his addresses, as the
“ person intended for my husband.
“ The joy, which this condescension
“ gave my father, is not to be
“ described,

“ described, and Count Valeria re-
 “ ceived it with the utmost transport
 “ and delight. Very little ceremony
 “ was afterwards necessary; and,
 “ fatally for me, my youth and
 “ inexperience prevented my seeing
 “ or considering the consequence
 “ of giving my hand and person to
 “ a man, who had not the least
 “ share of my affections, but was
 “ esteemed merely as the friend of
 “ my father, and respected entirely
 “ from the public report of his
 “ many great qualities and distin-
 “ guished abilities. But so entirely
 “ ignorant was I of those tender
 “ impressions, to which I have since
 “ fallen a sacrifice, and so wholly
 “ devoted to the will of my parents,
 “ that, without the least reluctance,

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“ and with the most perfect indif-
“ ference, in less than a month, I
“ surrendered myself to the arms
“ of the Count.

“ The immense wealth, which
“ Count Valeria received with me,
“ and was afterwards to receive,
“ enabled him to gratify his am-
“ bition and elegant taste, in the
“ magnificent and expensive equi-
“ page, which he purchased upon
“ this occasion. His country seat,
“ which is one of the finest and
“ most antient palaces in Europe,
“ was stript of all it's old furniture,
“ and fitted up with new of the most
“ superb kinds; and his house in
“ Venice, which is also perfectly
“ noble, received the same addi-
“ tions;

" tions; nor was he less profuse
 " in the number of the most va-
 " luable and elegant jewels which
 " he presented me with; and tho'
 " I had always been used to the
 " highest entertainments and most
 " costly dresses, his noble fancy and
 " generosity exceeded all that I
 " had ever seen. In short, he en-
 " gaged all my gratitude and re-
 " spect, tho' he had never engaged
 " my love for him. But of this
 " distinction I was as ignorant as
 " himself; for I really thought I
 " loved him as well as it was
 " possible for me to do, and more
 " than any other, except my parents;
 " and he was perfectly convinced,
 " that my esteem for him proceeded
 " from the purest passion of love.

“ We had been married above a
“ year, which I spent in this happy
“ indifference and tranquillity, when
“ my evil genius brought Lord
“ K_____ to Venice, in the
“ course of his travels; and as the
“ Count was remarkably fond of the
“ English, and frequently entertained
“ them at his house, the arrival of
“ Lord K_____ was no sooner
“ announced to him, than he imme-
“ diately waited on him, and a few
“ days after engaged his Lordship
“ to an entertainment with some
“ others of the English nobility.
“ He accordingly came, and the
“ whole company were charmed with
“ his wit, sprightliness, and good
“ humour; and as I had learned
“ to speak English from my infancy,
“ and

“ and Lord K—— could not
“ speak Italian perfectly, he, with
“ the greatest politeness, requested I
“ would be his interpreter, which,
“ with his turn of good humour,
“ tinctured with a little gallantry
“ towards some ladies that were
“ present, highly diverted the com-
“ pany, and pleased me—to my
“ shame I own it—but too much.
“ In short, the whole day and
“ evening was spent in the most
“ agreeable manner; and after the
“ Count had, with great civility,
“ pressed the honour of Lord
“ K——’s company, as often
“ as he could disengage himself—
“ his Lordship withdrew.

“ After

“ After the company had de-
“ parted, and the Count retired with
“ me to bed, he could not dis-
“ course of any thing, or any body,
“ but this agreeable Lord. He
“ said, he had met with many
“ English gentlemen distinguished
“ for their politeness and education,
“ but had never seen any so per-
“ fectly accomplished as Lord
“ K——, and for some time
“ we joined in our encomiums upon
“ his many agreeable qualities. For
“ my own part, I had his image
“ before me all the remainder of
“ the night; and the next morning
“ the Count having sent a polite
“ card to enquire after his Lord-
“ ship’s health, on my going down
“ stairs

“stairs I was very agreeably sur-
“prized to see his Lordship in con-
“versation with the Count, all joy
“and life.

C H A P. XVII.

“ I T was just at this time that
“ the Carnival at Venice be-
“ gan, and Lord K—— ac-
“ quainted the Count, that he was
“ that evening engaged to a mas-
“ querade ball at Count P——’s,
“ and on my husband’s telling his
“ Lordship that we were both en-
“ gaged to the same place, Lord
“ K—— begged I would let
“ him know my dress, and continue
“ to him the honour of my interpre-
“ tation; which, together with let-
“ ting him into the customs and
“ intrigues of Venice, would lay
“ him under the highest obligations,
“ to which both the Count and
“ myself readily consented.”

“ At the usual time we went to
“ Count P——’s, and I was sur-
“ prized that Lord K—— was
“ not to be seen in the rooms, but
“ in less than half an hour he made
“ his appearance in the character of
“ an English sailor, which he filled
“ with so much wit, and supported
“ with so much spirit and vivacity
“ during the whole evening, that
“ the company, and particularly the
“ ladies, were in raptures with him;
“ and as he was frequently seen in
“ familiar conversation with Count
“ Valeria and myself, it was imme-
“ diately known that he was a per-
“ son of quality, and my acting the
“ part of his interpreter, upon many
“ occasions, drew upon us the at-
“ tention of all the sprightliest
persons

“ persons of both sexes wherever we
 “ moved.

“ There is not in the universe a
 “ place, where intrigue, gallantry
 “ and pleasures of every sort, are
 “ carried on or indulged to a higher
 “ degree than at Venice during those
 “ carnivals, which are annually
 “ kept; nor are the *belles passions*
 “ there managed or conducted with
 “ that delicacy and discretion, which
 “ they are carried on with in this
 “ country. It was, therefore, pub-
 “ licly rumoured and believed, that
 “ I had adopted Lord K———
 “ for my *Cicisbeo*, which is the
 “ custom in that country for almost
 “ every married woman of any
 “ fashion.”——*Cicisbeo!* says Miss
 Faulkner,

Faulkner; I don't know what that means; and but that I would not interrupt your agreeable story, should be extremely glad to have it explained to me. Lady Valeria smiled at her ignorance, and proceeded thus.

“ The order of *Cicisbei* was first
 “ instituted at Genoa, but the
 “ fashion is now spread all over
 “ Italy. These are gentlemen, who
 “ devote themselves to the service
 “ of some particular married lady,
 “ and are obliged to wait on her
 “ to all public places, such as plays,
 “ opera's, masquerades, &c. and
 “ attend her as lacquies, devoting
 “ their whole time and fortune to
 “ her service. When at home, they
 are

“ are constantly with those ladies
 “ in their most retired apartments,
 “ where even their husbands are
 “ refused admittance; and as they
 “ have those frequent opportunities,
 “ you may easily guess how the
 “ ladies reward these attendants;
 “ but their husbands are not to have
 “ the impudence to suppose this in-
 “ timacy proceeds from any other
 “ cause than pure platonick friend-
 “ ship.”

“ 'Tis true, every husband endea-
 “ vours to give his wife a *Cicisbeo*
 “ of his own chusing, (which was
 “ my case) but when the Lady hap-
 “ pens not to be of the same taste,
 “ which is frequently the case, she
 “ never fails having one of her own
 “ fancy;

“ fancy ; and any husband that
“ would be unreasonable enough to
“ refuse or be offended at it, would
“ be deemed the most ignorant
“ stupid wretch in the universe, and
“ excluded all polite assemblies. In
“ short, I believe the first intention
“ of this institution of *Cicisbei* was
“ rather that they should be a kind
“ of spies or watch upon the ladies
“ than lovers : but the case is now
“ otherwise ; and if a Lady is known
“ to dismiss one of these gentlemen,
“ and engage in any new gallantry
“ with another, the disbanded heroe
“ is obliged, by the custom and
“ nature of his office, to resent the
“ injury, and either cut the throat
“ of his rival, or have a sword run
“ through his own body ; so that
“ these

“ these *Cicisbei* are now the guardians
“ of their mistresses honour, and
“ obliged to resent all their quarrels
“ and affronts, instead of their husbands, which you will allow is
“ some consideration for the favours
“ they suffer their ladies to bestow
“ upon these champions.

C H A P. XVIII.

“ C O U N T Valeria had ap-
“ pointed one of this order
“ of *Cicisbei* to attend me; but so far
“ was he from having any private
“ intercourse or intimacy with me,
“ that I detested him, as I was al-
“ most constantly pestered with his
“ company, as well at home as
“ abroad; and although he had
“ never made any attempt on my
“ honour, nor ever declared any
“ particular passion for me, except
“ the usual compliments of gal-
“ lantry, which the nature of the
“ office authorizes; yet I could per-
“ ceive, that he entertained some
“ thoughts of that nature, and my
“ youth,

“ youth, no doubt, inflamed and
 “ flattered his hopes of success.
 “ This *Cicisbeo* of mine was a young
 “ Nobleman of distinction, and the
 “ only son of one of the greatest
 “ senators, of the family of *Canta-*
 “ *taria*, not ungenteel in his per-
 “ son, but haughty, passionate, and
 “ revengeful; and as he attended
 “ me at the ball, seemed very un-
 “ easy at the intimacy which ap-
 “ peared between me and Lord
 “ K——h; and as we fre-
 “ quently discoursed in English,
 “ which Cantaria did not under-
 “ stand, his jealousy construed every
 “ word that passed, into a declara-
 “ tion of love, or a private assigna-
 “ tion. And as I observed before,
 “ that his constant attendance on me
 “ was

“ was extremely disagreeable, I will
 “ own to you, that I took a parti-
 “ cular pleasure in mortifying him,
 “ and for that reason indulged seve-
 “ ral little airs and compliments
 “ to Lord K———h, which I
 “ should not otherwise have done;
 “ for although, I believe, that danger-
 “ ous companion had even then made
 “ some impression on my heart, I
 “ did not know it, or suspect my
 “ falling virtue; and I considered
 “ the pleasure, which I took in his
 “ company and conversation, as pro-
 “ ceeding only from the high fallies
 “ of wit and humour, which per-
 “ petually flowed from him, and
 “ with which every other person
 “ seemed as much delighted as
 “ myself.

I

“ Having

“ Having stayed at the masque-
“ rade till five in the morning, I
“ was, as usual, attended home by
“ Cantaria; who hinted, in presence
“ of my husband, that he believed
“ I had fallen in love with the
“ agreeable English Lord, from the
“ particular compliments which I
“ paid him; and although he men-
“ tioned it in a jocular manner,
“ and it was received as such by
“ Count Valeria, I could easily dis-
“ cern that he spoke it with a ma-
“ licious design, and to punish me
“ for the uneasiness I had given
“ him at the ball; but my husband’s
“ presence prevented my replying
“ to him, as I should have done
“ at that juncture.

“ The

“ The next night I was at the
 “ opera; and as soon as Lord
 “ K——h came into the house,
 “ I could observe him looking
 “ through the boxes very attentive-
 “ ly to discover me. I made him
 “ a signal with my fan to come
 “ into my box. This put Cantaria,
 “ who was with me, out of all
 “ patience; and as soon as Lord
 “ K——h approached, he with-
 “ drew, to my great satisfaction.
 “ His displeasure at Lord K——h’s
 “ entrance was so conspicuous, that
 “ his Lordship took notice of it,
 “ and asked me the reason, which I
 “ incautiously, and, I am sorry to
 “ say, very imprudently told him.
 “ I do not know whether Lord
 “ K——h then put that con-
 I 2 “ struction

“ struction upon this information,
“ which men of gallantry and in-
“ trigue generally do on intimations
“ of the like nature; or whether he
“ came designedly, or prepared, to
“ make a formal declaration of his
“ passion for me; but we had not
“ been half an hour together in the
“ box, when he convinced me, that
“ I had engaged my heart but too
“ much in his favour, and that he
“ was a most enterprizing and art-
“ ful seducer. He represented to
“ me the injury done to my honour
“ by placing Cantaria as a watch on
“ my actions; the absurdity of being
“ under the direction of a person of
“ so mean a character; the inequality
“ of my husband’s years, and the
“ custom of the ladies of quality;
“ with

“ with many other sophistical argu-
 “ ments, which entirely subdued my
 “ weak understanding; and pressed
 “ me to a private interview with so
 “ much ardour, that unfortunately
 “ for me, I consented to it; and the
 “ next day sent one of my women
 “ to him, to concert measures for
 “ our meeting. This artful woman
 “ I found perfectly experienced and
 “ accomplished in the business of in-
 “ trigue; and as Lord K——h
 “ was as bountiful, as he was inge-
 “ nious and enterprizing, my con-
 “ fidant returned to me in raptures,
 “ and with the plan settled for our
 “ assignation that very night, in
 “ lodgings which they had taken
 “ for the purpose, in a retired gen-

“ teel part of the city. We ac-
“ cordingly met at this fatal place,
“ and from that moment commenced
“ my misfortunes.

C H A P. XIX.

“ **A**FTER this meeting my hus-
 “ band became odious to me,
 “ so that I could scarcely behave
 “ to him with common civility; and
 “ I positively insisted, that Cantaria
 “ should withdraw his attendance
 “ on me. The Count, who only
 “ lived to please and oblige me, tho’
 “ he was astonished at this sudden
 “ change in my temper and dispo-
 “ sition, readily consented to remove
 “ this troublesome attendant, and he
 “ was forbid the house, which gave
 “ me the greatest pleasure; and as
 “ my husband had not the least
 “ suspicion of my honour, I had
 “ every opportunity I could wish of
 I 4 “ meeting

“ meeting Lord K—— at the
 “ place of assignation, which we
 “ never failed to do every night.

“ We continued our fatal inter-
 “ course about three weeks without
 “ any interruption, and as I had
 “ never heard from, or seen Can-
 “ taria, but in public places, where
 “ he never spoke to me, I had not
 “ the least apprehensions of him;
 “ but he was not so idle as I
 “ imagined. Dismission from the
 “ office of *Cicisbeo*, is one of the
 “ greatest indignities, that can be
 “ offered; and this haughty young
 “ Nobleman was resolved to be
 “ amply revenged of me. For this
 “ purpose he set watches upon my
 “ every motion, and as he knew
 “ almost

“ almost every place where Count
 “ Valeria and I visited, there was
 “ not an action or an expression of
 “ mine that he was not acquainted
 “ with, except the place of private
 “ meeting with Lord K———,
 “ and that too he unfortunately dis-
 “ covered, but by what means I
 “ know not nor ever could learn;
 “ and the consequences removed all
 “ possibility of enquiring.

“ Lord K——— was one
 “ night somewhat later in his ap-
 “ pointment than usual, which gave
 “ me the utmost uneasiness. I had
 “ waited for him near half an hour,
 “ when my anxiety led me to look
 “ out of the window to see for him,
 “ and although it was quite dark,

I 5 “ I perceived

“ I perceived a man walking several
“ times by the house we were in ;
“ and from circumstances which I
“ now recollect, I have some reason
“ to conclude, that my woman knew
“ it was Cantaria, tho’ cloaked and
“ masqued. But we had not been
“ long at the window before I per-
“ ceived Lord K—— approach,
“ who was likewise disguised ; and
“ when he came within a few paces
“ of the house, the person we before
“ observed walking suddenly drew
“ his sword, and made a dreadful
“ push at him, which I thought
“ went quite through his body ; upon
“ which I cried out, Murder ! and
“ instantly fainted : and in that
“ situation I remained, insensible and
“ lifeless, till I found myself re-
“ covered,

“ covered, and in the arms of Lord
 “ K——.

“ As soon as I was sufficiently re-
 “ covered, my Lord informed me,
 “ that it was the villain Cantaria,
 “ that had attempted to assassinate
 “ him, and had wounded him; but
 “ that he had received the reward
 “ of his barbarity, and was then
 “ lying in another apartment, he
 “ feared, expiring; that therefore
 “ there was not a moment to be
 “ lost, that as to me he would not
 “ part with me at the peril of his
 “ life, and that as the death of
 “ Cantaria would be instantly found
 “ out, so the cause of it and our
 “ intercourse would be likewise made
 “ public: he therefore conjured me,

“ that moment, to fly with him out
“ of the Venetian territories. At
“ this instant a servant of my Lord’s,
“ who always attended at these
“ apartments, and to whom he had
“ given Cantaria in care, entered the
“ room, and in the utmost confusion
“ told us, that he was dead. This
“ gave us all a fresh alarm, and I
“ was so perfectly petrified with
“ terror, grief and astonishment,
“ that I was incapable of moving
“ or speaking: therefore my Lord
“ ordered his servant to wrap me
“ in his cloak, and carry me in his
“ arms, until we could get a car-
“ riage; and taking hold of my
“ woman himself, we quitted this
“ fatal house, and went through
“ several dark streets and passages,
“ before

“ before we durst stop or call for a
 “ coach. We at length got one,
 “ and drove to the utmost limits
 “ of the city, near the harbour,
 “ when my Lord ordered his servant
 “ to go directly in quest of the
 “ Captain of an English ship, whom
 “ he had formerly known and failed
 “ with. The servant returned in
 “ a few minutes with the Captain,
 “ and in less than a quarter of
 “ an hour we were aboard his
 “ ship.

“ Lord K—— acquainted
 “ the Captain, whose name was
 “ Wilson, with what had happened
 “ respecting Cantaria; and seeing
 “ me with him, and knowing his
 “ Lordship's general character, he
 “ easily

“ easily guessed the rest. And al-
“ though he had not finished half
“ his business at Venice, he im-
“ mediately agreed to go with us
“ to Genoa, and we set sail ac-
“ cordingly.

“ After we had been some time on
“ board, and every thing was settled
“ for sailing, my Lord asked the
“ Captain if he had a surgeon on
“ board; and being answered in the
“ affirmative, he desired he would
“ send him into the cabin, as
“ he had received a little hurt
“ in his arm. When the surgeon
“ came and undressed his arm,
“ which was tied up with two or
“ three handkerchiefs to stop the
“ blood, he found his Lordship had
“ received.

“ received a terrible wound in his
“ left arm, and had lost a vast
“ quantity of blood, which his
“ cloak prevented our seeing before.
“ The surgeon immediately dressed
“ it, and my Lord made nothing
“ of it. For my own part, from
“ the moment I saw Cantaria’s
“ sword, to that instant, I was per-
“ fectly insensible of every thing that
“ passed, and I had no more thought
“ of going aboard ship, and for
“ ever quitting my parents, hus-
“ band and friends, than if no such
“ people ever existed; but tacitly
“ submitted to every thing my Lord
“ did and ordered.

C H A P. XX.

“ **N**otwithstanding my Lord suffered much pain for several
“ days we were at sea, he used every
“ means in his power to comfort
“ and entertain me ; and my anxiety
“ for his health engaged my attention so much, that I did not then
“ feel those severe reflections, which
“ have since tortured me, for being
“ the cause of so much distraction
“ as I knew my unhappy conduct
“ had occasioned, and the inexpressible grief it would give to my
“ parents and husband. In short, I
“ was so entirely devoted to this
“ bewitching Lord, that I bore all
“ those dreadful calamities with a
“ resolution

“ resolution and resignation, that
 “ both surprized and charmed him,
 “ and which he returned with the
 “ utmost tenderness, love and re-
 “ spect; and after a very agreeable
 “ voyage we arrived safe at Genoa,
 “ out of fear and apprehension.

“ We staid at Genoa but a few
 “ days, until my Lord’s wound was
 “ tolerably well, and to purchase
 “ some necessaries both for myself
 “ and my woman, as we had not,
 “ during the passage, a single change
 “ of either cloaths or linen; nor
 “ had my Lord any, but as he bor-
 “ rowed a shirt from the Captain,
 “ who behaved to us with all pos-
 “ sible respect, and entertained us
 “ in the very best manner he was
 “ capable.

“capable. Lord K——— was
 “here also under further obligations
 “to Captain Wilfon, for he had no
 “money, nor had he any letters
 “of credit on Genoa; but as soon
 “as the Captain made known who
 “he was, several gentlemen and
 “merchants offered to advance what-
 “ever sum his Lordship wanted.
 “He accordingly took what was
 “necessary to carry him to Lyons,
 “for which he gave bills on his
 “banker at Paris, and made a
 “present to Captain Wilfon of five
 “hundred guineas, and fifty more
 “to be divided amongst the ship’s
 “crew.

“Having purchased what neces-
 “saries we wanted, we set out from
 “Genoa.

“ Genoa for Turin. My Lord and
 “ I travelled in one chaise, and his
 “ servant and my woman in another,
 “ and we arrived at Turin the
 “ second day. But the weather was
 “ so intensely cold in travelling over
 “ this mountainous country, that
 “ my Lord suffered much in his
 “ arm, and I was almost froze to
 “ death, tho’ we were wrapt up in
 “ furr all over. We therefore re-
 “ mained at Turin for some days;
 “ and my Lord wrote to Venice,
 “ and ordered his servants to meet
 “ him with his baggage at Lyons,
 “ as soon as possible.

“ During our stay at Turin, my
 “ Lord met with two English
 “ Noblemen of his acquaintance in
 “ their

“ their way to Venice and Naples,
“ to whom he communicated our
“ adventure; and as he was con-
“ vinced, that the death of Cantaria
“ and my elopement would make
“ much noise in the republick, and
“ would be justly imputed to him,
“ he requested these Noblemen to
“ represent the affair in it's true
“ light, and clear his Lordship of
“ the charge of having killed that
“ unfortunate man, in any unfair
“ or ungenerous manner, but in
“ defence of his own life, when the
“ other intended to assassinate him.
“ And with respect to me, he en-
“ treated his friends would wait on
“ my parents and acquaint them,
“ that they had seen me at Turin,
“ in our way to Ireland, where his
“ Lordship

“ Lordship declared he would do
 “ every thing in his power to render
 “ me happy; but that after what
 “ had happened, it could not be
 “ expected I should ever return to
 “ Venice: all which his noble friends
 “ promised to perform, and to ac-
 “ quaint his Lordship of what had
 “ passed, in a letter directed to his
 “ bankers at Paris.

“ These points settled, we set out
 “ from Turin to pass the Alps,
 “ which I had often heard of, but
 “ never before approached; and in-
 “ deed it is impossible to entertain
 “ any just idea of them, without
 “ viewing and passing them. The
 “ first day’s journey from Turin is
 “ to a place called Novalesse,
 “ through

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“ through a very fine country,
“ which, at another season of the
“ year, would have afforded us in-
“ finite delight, from the variety of
“ fruits, and charming plantations
“ with which it abounds, and which
“ my Lord assured me were equal
“ to any to be found in any other
“ part of Italy ; but it was now in
“ the month of December, and the
“ whole country covered over with
“ snow and intensely cold.

“ The second day we began to
“ ascend the famous mount Cenis,
“ which is by much the highest of
“ all those wonderful mountains.
“ At the bottom of this tremendous
“ Alp, our chaises were taken to
“ pieces, and with our baggage put
“ upon

“ upon a number of mules, who
“ climb up those otherwise inacces-
“ sible rocks, with a stability and
“ dexterity that would amaze you.
“ We were all over wrapt up in
“ furs, and put into little seats or
“ chairs of twisted rods, fixed upon
“ poles, like those used here in
“ sedan chairs, and in that manner
“ were carried upon men’s shoulders;
“ and although we set out at day
“ break in the morning, it was quite
“ dark before we got to the bottom
“ on the other side of this one
“ mountain, in crossing which I
“ thought I should have been froze
“ to death; nor should I have been
“ able to stand it, if we had not
“ stopt on the very summit of the
“ mountain, on which there is a
“ plain

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“ plain of some miles over, and a
“ very large lake filled with the
“ finest trout in the world. Here
“ there is a wretched cottage, where
“ persons of all ranks and degrees,
“ who travel this way, are obliged
“ to stop for some refreshment, and
“ it is the only place that any can be
“ had during a whole day’s severe
“ journey.

“ My Lord assured me, that when
“ he passed this place in the summer
“ before, he was highly delighted
“ on this plain; that he had fished
“ upon the lake, and never beheld
“ a more delightful prospect: but
“ it was now all over covered with
“ snow many yards deep, and froze
“ so hard, that the mules travelled
“ on

“ on it with great safety. And I
 “ cannot help owning, that this
 “ amazing prospect of mountains,
 “ which are never free from snow,
 “ the immense clouds which hung
 “ suspended for several miles below
 “ our feet, and the dreadful cascades
 “ of water rolling down the stupen-
 “ dous rocks, with a noise that can
 “ be heard for several miles, ren-
 “ dered the whole scene, if I may
 “ be allowed the expression — hor-
 “ ribly delightful.

“ Three whole days we travelled
 “ through these mountains, with
 “ wretched accommodations of every
 “ sort, although there were two
 “ couriers went post constantly be-
 “ fore us, to provide provisions and
 K “ horses.

“ horses. We at last arrived at
“ Pont Beauvoisin, the frontier town
“ of France; which, by a small
“ bridge, divides that kingdom from
“ the dominions of Savoy. And
“ the fourth night we got into
“ Lyons, to my great comfort and
“ satisfaction.

“ We remained at Lyons for
“ several days, waiting for my
“ Lord's retinue and baggage, which
“ at length arrived by the way of
“ Marseilles. Our time was here
“ very agreeably spent, in viewing
“ the curiosities of the place, and the
“ greatest silk manufactures in the
“ world, with an immense quantity
“ of which, the richest and most
“ beautiful I had ever seen, my
“ Lord

“ Lord filled several chests for my
 “ use, which I took with me to
 “ Paris, and had them there made
 “ in the most elegant and fashionable
 “ taste, and in the purchase of
 “ these and other necessaries, with
 “ some diamonds and trinkets, my
 “ Lord expended several thousand
 “ pounds, and gave me in every
 “ other respect the highest proofs of
 “ his generosity, love and respect;
 “ so that I began to resume my for-
 “ mer tranquillity, and enjoy the
 “ highest happiness in his company
 “ and conversation, nor was he
 “ hardly ever an hour absent from
 “ me.

“ After a month's stay at Paris;
 “ my Lord received letters from his

“ friends whom he had parted with
“ at Turin, congratulating him on
“ his escape from Venice, and in-
“ forming him, that he had not
“ failed half an hour before the
“ whole city was in an uproar, and
“ that if he had been taken with
“ me, it would have been impossible
“ to have saved his life, the power
“ and resentment both of my father
“ and husband, and that of the Can-
“ taria family, were so great—that
“ Count Valeria threatened to pursue
“ us even to Ireland; and they
“ advised my Lord by all means
“ not to stay at Paris, as they
“ doubted not but some villains
“ would be there employed to assas-
“ sinate him, and perhaps seize me.
“ This account alarmed me so
“ much,

“ much, that I would not sleep
“ another night in Paris for a king-
“ dom, and I had influence enough
“ over my Lord to prevail with him
“ to set out that very night, and
“ the third day we arrived safe at
“ Dover, where I was satisfied we
“ were out of all danger.

C H A P. XXI.

“SOME few nights after our
“ arrival in London, Lord
“ K—— took me to the play,
“ where, in the very next box, I
“ met with the Venetian Ambass-
“ fador, who was a near relation of
“ mine, and particularly intimate
“ with me and all my family. He
“ was as much astonished at seeing
“ me, as I was terrified and alarmed
“ at seeing him; for I doubted not
“ but he had heard of my elope-
“ ment, and the death of Lord
“ Cantaria, to whom he was also
“ related. Nor was I deceived in
“ that opinion; for, after a very
“ cold salute, I could perceive he
“ was

“ was prodigiously uneasy, and after
“ some time retired, which I con-
“ cluded was to give orders to have
“ me watched, and to find out my
“ residence. This new alarm so
“ terrified me, that I had like to
“ have fainted. My Lord observed
“ my distress, and enquiring the
“ cause, I informed him of my
“ suspicions, and begged he would
“ permit me to leave the house di-
“ rectly, which, in regard to me,
“ he complied with; and having
“ conducted me out at a private
“ door, put me into a chair without
“ any attendants but himself, and
“ ordered the chairmen to stop at a
“ certain street which he mentioned,
“ but not at the place of our re-
“ sidence.

K 4

“ We

“ We had not gone far, when
“ my Lord called a hackney coach,
“ which we both got into and went
“ home; and, by this caution,
“ eluded any enquiry the Ambaf-
“ fador might have made after me:
“ nor could my Lord ever after-
“ wards, during our ſtay in London,
“ prevail with me to go into any
“ public place or meeting, which
“ very much difconcerted him, as
“ he intended to have ſpent the re-
“ mainder of the winter in England.
“ But this adventure, and my reſo-
“ lution not to appear any more
“ in public, determined him to ſet
“ out for Ireland, and we arrived at
“ Dublin in a few days afterwards.

“ It

“ It had been reported to several
 “ of my Lord’s friends in that king-
 “ dom, that he had been murdered
 “ at Venice, and they had received
 “ a very imperfect account of our
 “ adventure there; but his sudden
 “ and unexpected appearance gave
 “ so much joy and satisfaction, that
 “ for several days he was not per-
 “ mitted to be one moment alone.
 “ His house was perpetually filled
 “ with persons of the first distinction,
 “ who flew to congratulate his Lord-
 “ ship on his safe arrival; for I need
 “ not tell you how much and how
 “ universally he was beloved and
 “ respected. We remained near
 “ three months in Dublin, and I
 “ was entertained by his Lordship
 “ and all his friends (except ladies)

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“ with the same respect and distinction, as if I had been married to him, and he had given positive directions to all his servants and domesticks to treat and obey me as such; so that I was as happy as the nature of my situation would admit, and I believe, that, during that period, his Lordship was never guilty of any infidelity to me.”

“ Some time in May following he took me to Rockingham, which I need not describe to you. I was charmed with this delightful place, and as I had centered all my happiness in my Lord's presence and company, and as I enjoyed much more of it there, than
“ I could

" I could possibly do in town, I
 " grew perfectly pleased with my
 " situation, and I soon discovered
 " that I was pregnant.

" This event so delighted my
 " Lord, that he, if possible, doubled
 " his assiduity to please and indulge
 " me in every thing. You have
 " seen the manner he lived in at
 " this enchanting seat, and have
 " experienced his power to please.
 " In short, every thing about me
 " was a perfect paradise, and all
 " devoted to my pleasures. In this
 " delightful manner we passed the
 " summer, and as the time of my
 " delivery drew near, we repaired
 " to town in October; and, about
 " the middle of November, I was

“ mother of one of the finest boys
 “ in the universe. My Lord was
 “ all transport, and every prepara-
 “ tion was made and attendance
 “ given, suited to a person of the
 “ first rank and distinction; and he
 “ had the child called Robert, after
 “ his own christian name.

“ A nurse was, at my particular
 “ desire, taken into the house, and
 “ my whole attention was engrossed
 “ by my lovely boy; nor was my
 “ Lord less fond of him, which
 “ rendered me entirely happy; when
 “ a cursed adventure interfered, that
 “ blasted all my hope of future
 “ happiness and repose. My Lord
 “ was taken in bed with the honour-
 “ able Mrs. G——, a near rela-
 “ tion.

“ tion of his own, and the wife of
“ a person of the very first rank and
“ family in the kingdom. The
“ manner, in which they were dis-
“ covered, rendered it impossible to
“ keep the affair secret. It was
“ spread all over the city in a few
“ days, and a prosecution was com-
“ menced against my Lord by the
“ husband ; whilst the Lady was
“ immediately put into a ship in the
“ harbour by her own family, carried
“ over to France, and there immured
“ in a cloister, where she remains
“ to this day. And my Lord, at
“ the request and by the persuasion
“ of many of his friends, retired
“ into the country, until the con-
“ fusion, which this shameful amour
“ had produced, should be blown
“ over.

“ I need not mention to you, nor
“ indeed can I, the tortures I felt
“ on this occasion. I became fran-
“ tic, and upbraided my Lord for
“ his infidelity, and the insult he
“ had offered to me, in terms that
“ were, I own, rather too violent,
“ and both surprized and offended
“ him; for you know with what
“ impatience he could hear any of
“ his faults, or remonstrance against
“ them. We had not been long in
“ the country before we quarreled
“ and became so uneasy, that he
“ ordered separate beds, and shortly
“ after openly avowed his incon-
“ stancy by keeping wenches in the
“ very house with me. On reflec-
“ tion, I think it but justice to his
“ Lordship’s memory to own I was
“ much

“ much to blame on this occasion ;
 “ that my behaviour to him was too
 “ violent and aggravating ; and that
 “ if I had preserved more modera-
 “ tion and discretion, he never would
 “ have treated me with that dis-
 “ respect and indifference, which I
 “ ever afterwards so fatally expe-
 “ rienced. For some time I was
 “ really out of my senses ; but my
 “ youth and inexperience, joined
 “ to the violence of my love and
 “ attachment to him, blinded my
 “ understanding, and I gave entire
 “ sway to my passions without once
 “ reflecting on the consequences.

“ The measure of my misfortunes
 “ was not however yet full, tho’
 “ I thought myself as miserable as
 “ any

“ any human wretch could be
“ made. My dear boy was taken
“ with that cruel distemper called
“ the small pox, and died in a
“ few days. I shall not attempt
“ to describe my sorrows on that
“ occasion, nor did I ever see my
“ Lord so much affected. He was
“ really grieved, and for some days
“ would not see any company. For
“ a whole week I had never spoke
“ to him or seen him, but remained
“ in my own apartments, where I
“ wept myself into a perfect stupe-
“ faction, regardless of every thing
“ that surrounded me.

C H A P. XXII.

“FROM this lethargy I was
“roused by the arrival of a
“number of my Lord’s most riotous
“and debauched companions, who
“had been previously engaged to
“come down to hunt with him;
“and as nothing could long affect
“his gay spirits, he soon returned
“to his usual excesses of drinking
“and debaucheries of every sort;
“so that the house became a per-
“fect brothel. It is true, he never
“permitted any of his abandoned
“company to come near or disturb
“me. I had a set of the best a-
“partments in the house, appointed
“for my separate use, the most
“remote

“ remote from the scene of riot and
 “ intoxication; and my Lord regu-
 “ larly every morning paid me a
 “ visit, behaved to me with the
 “ highest respect, and gave strict
 “ orders for my being attended and
 “ furnished with every thing I
 “ desired; and in this situation
 “ we continued to live for several
 “ months.

“ My Lord saw, and was touched
 “ with my misfortunes. He can-
 “ didly confessed he had treated me
 “ ill, but that he could not account
 “ for the fickleness of his temper
 “ and extravagant desires; and very
 “ generously offered to accompany
 “ me to any part of Europe I should
 “ chuse for my residence, and to
 “ settle

“ settle an annuity on me for life,
“ that would enable me to live up
“ to the height of my ambition—
“ all which I refused. I was ap-
“ prehensive, that, if I went to any
“ other part of Europe out of his
“ protection, my residence would be
“ found out by my husband or pa-
“ rents, and that they would by
“ force carry me to Venice, which I
“ dreaded much more than death
“ itself. I was an entire stranger
“ both in England and Ireland, and
“ did not know where or to whom
“ I should remove, and was de-
“ lighted with the situation I was
“ then in. I therefore requested his
“ Lordship would permit me to
“ continue at Rockingham, and as-
“ sured him I would not presume
“ to

“ to interrupt his pleasures or pursuits, in what I saw he could not be restrained from.

“ In this melancholy situation I had remained upwards of three years, when you arrived at Rockingham; and in the course of that time, it is incredible to think what a number of unhappy young creatures were daily sacrificed to the lust and passions of this strange, extravagant Lord, and his more abandoned, profligate companions; tho’ there were but few of them of any note or family, nor did I ever keep company with any of them, but two or three, who, I knew, were persons of some condition, and had been
“ seduced

“ seduced to this mansion of de-
“ struction, before your arrival;
“ and from the moment I saw you,
“ I was prejudiced in your favour,
“ and felt severely for the ruin,
“ which I knew would be brought
“ upon you by your love for my
“ Lord. On his return from England
“ after the marriage of Miss J——,
“ he expressed to me his concern
“ for you, and the apprehensions
“ he was under that some accident
“ had happened to you, and most
“ of all that no settlement or pro-
“ vision had been made for you;
“ and added, that lest some fatal
“ accident should prevent his pro-
“ viding for me in future, he in-
“ sisted I should then accept of a
“ deed of annuity of 600 l. a year,
“ payable

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“ payable half yearly during my
“ life, together with a legacy of
“ 1000l. payable in one month
“ after his death, if I should survive
“ him.

C H A P. XXIII.

“ **A**S soon as these matters were
“ settled, he gave orders that
“ every thing should be got ready
“ for his journey to Vienna, and
“ from thence to the Court of
“ Russia; but a few days before
“ he was to set out, he was taken
“ with an apoplexy, and in one
“ moment deprived of the power of
“ speech and the use of all his
“ limbs; but with proper care he
“ was recovered in a short time.
“ The fortitude and resignation,
“ with which he bore this dreadful
“ shock, astonished me and every
“ person present. He ordered every
“ body out of the room, and with
“ an

“ an affection and tenderness, that
 “ overwhelm’d me with grief, de-
 “ fired I would let him know, if
 “ there was any thing I desired
 “ should be done for me, or added
 “ to the provision already made for
 “ me. ‘ I know,’ continued his
 “ Lordship, ‘ that the shock I have
 ‘ had is the signal for my dissolu-
 ‘ tion ; and I don’t know any crime
 ‘ I have been guilty of, that weighs
 ‘ so heavy upon my mind, as sedu-
 ‘ cing a Lady of your rank, beauty,
 ‘ and fortune, from your elevated
 ‘ station in life ; and the thought
 ‘ of leaving you here, friendless and
 ‘ forsaken, at this moment renders
 ‘ me miserable.’ “ This kind con-
 “ cern for me, and the manner in
 “ which he expressed it, more than
 “ recompensed

“ recompensed all my former suf-
 “ ferings. I sunk before him, dis-
 “ solved in tears, love and grati-
 “ tude; and assured him I was
 “ amply provided for, and had not
 “ a wish for any more worldly
 “ riches; but begged of him to
 “ compose himself, and ardently
 “ prayed that the hour of his death
 “ might be many—many years dis-
 “ tant. ‘ My dear Valeria!’ re-
 “ plied his Lordship, ‘ that cannot
 ‘ be; the life I have led, ever since
 ‘ I was sixteen, will not, in the na-
 ‘ ture of things, permit it; and
 ‘ for some time I have perceived
 ‘ violent symptoms of what has now
 ‘ happened, and, I am sure, will
 ‘ shortly return, and end all my
 ‘ enjoyments in this life. ’Tis a
 L ‘ kind

kind of death I am pleased with ;
and as I have already enjoyed more
than one man's share of worldly
pleasures, I am perfectly willing
to resign. My friends have long
endeavour'd to persuade me to
marry, as well to furnish an heir
to my title and estate, as to re-
claim me from that extravagance
in pursuit of your sex, which I
flatter myself has been my only
foible, and has irresistibly hurried
me into those many dangers, ex-
cesses and crimes, that I now
sincerely repent of; but I could
not, nor would not marry any
woman that I did not entirely love,
and I was too well acquainted
with my own unhappy temper and
constitution, not to be convinced,
I should

“ I should make her miserable. I
 “ therefore declined every overture
 “ of that nature that was made to
 “ me, which at this moment gives
 “ me the greatest pleasure and com-
 “ fort I am capable of receiving.
 “ His Lordship concluded with ad-
 “ vising me to go into the south of
 “ France, and place myself in some
 “ genteel convent, until I should
 “ hear from my parents, or some
 “ other event might enable me to
 “ return to my native country.

“ His Lordship then called in
 “ Mr. K——, his younger brother,
 “ in whose favour he had made his
 “ will, and conjured him, in the
 “ most pathetic manner, to shew me
 “ every act of tenderness and friend-

“ ship in his power; and that in
“ case he should be able to discover
“ you, he should in the like manner
“ amply provide for and befriend
“ you—which Mr. K—— pro-
“ mised faithfully to perform. My
“ Lord then acquainted his brother,
“ that he had advanced several sums
“ of money to several needy gen-
“ tlemen, his friends and compa-
“ nions, which they would not
“ accept of, but as borrowed from
“ him, and for which they had
“ given him bonds, notes, &c.;
“ that he was convinced many of
“ them were prejudiced in their
“ circumstances from many extra-
“ vagancies, which they had com-
“ mitted in his company, and which
“ their fortunes could not afford;
“ and

“ and that at the time he advanced
 “ the money, for which he received
 “ their bonds, he never intended to
 “ demand any payment of them.
 “ He therefore desired they should
 “ be all brought to him, and he in-
 “ stantly put the whole bundle into
 “ the fire. After this he was per-
 “ fectly chearful, and resumed his
 “ former vivacity, which he enjoyed
 “ for seven days, till at last he was
 “ seized with a second fit, which
 “ put an end to his life.

“ Notwithstanding this noble
 “ Lord’s innumerable follies, I don’t
 “ believe there ever was a man’s
 “ death so universally lamented, by
 “ all ranks and degrees of people.
 “ The moment he died, all his

“ vices died with him; and were
 “ utterly forgot; but his unexam-
 “ pled benevolence, generosity and
 “ hospitality, were all gratefully
 “ remembered and applauded; and
 “ the cries and lamentations of
 “ many hundreds of his poor
 “ tenants, labourers and servants,
 “ were heard and continued for
 “ several days through all parts of
 “ the country, and followed him to
 “ his grave. And I was assured,
 “ that such a funeral was never
 “ seen in that country; that several
 “ thousands of gentlemen and ladies
 “ attended at his interment from
 “ all parts of the kingdom, to
 “ testify their respect and esteem for
 “ the memory of their noble friend.

“ After

“ After his interment, as soon as
 “ decency would permit, I acquainted
 “ Mr. K—— with my desire of
 “ fulfilling his Lordship’s directions,
 “ in retiring to France, which he
 “ readily agreed to; and imme-
 “ diately gave me an order on his
 “ banker in Dublin, for the 1000 l.
 “ his brother had bequeathed me,
 “ with directions to draw half
 “ yearly for my annuity. He then
 “ presented me with a valuable ring,
 “ as a token of his respect for me,
 “ and ordered his own post chaise,
 “ horses and servants, to attend me
 “ to Dublin. I have been but a
 “ few days in London in my way
 “ to France, where if my dear Miss
 “ Faulkner will accompany me,
 “ she shall with the greatest plea-

“ sure share my little fortune, and
 “ I think it enough to supply us
 “ both with every thing we can
 “ desire, in that part of the world.”

Here Lady Valeria ended her melancholy history, with which Miss Faulkner was equally affected and delighted; and they mutually condoled with each other, and lamented the death of their beloved Lord K——; and after Miss Faulkner had returned suitable acknowledgements for the trouble Lady Valeria had taken to oblige her, and for the generous and polite offer she had made to her, which she was forced to decline on account of her very bad state of health,
 they

they parted with assurances of seeing and entertaining each other, as often as possible, during Lady Valeria's short stay in London.

C H A P. XXIV.

THERE is no greater relief to a suffering mind, than a companion in our afflictions. The misfortunes of Lady Valeria lessened those of Miss Faulkner, and, by the sensible advice and cordial friendship of that lady, she began to recover her strength and spirits. They were almost constantly together, and as Lady Valeria was an excellent judge of musick, and knew Miss Faulkner's elegant taste and admirable performance in that art, and hearing of the extravagant salaries given to all the eminent performers in our public entertainments, she advised her to practise and study it with

with some attention, and that she could not fail of getting a very genteel income by it.

Lady Valeria having settled what business she had to do in London, and despairing of getting Miss Faulkner to go with her into France, set out for Dover, whither Miss Faulkner attended her, accompanied by Mrs. Preston, in a post chaise; and the next day they parted, with mutual assurances of the most inviolable friendship and constant correspondence by letters.

On her return to London, our heroine began seriously to consider her situation. She knew, that the small fortune she had would not be

L 6 sufficient

sufficient to support her for any length of time, in a life of idleness; and the opinion and advice of Lady Valeria had great weight with her. She therefore sold the most valuable part of her jewels, and some cloaths, which she thought unfit for her use; and the produce of these, with the remainder of her cash which she had not spent, amounted to upwards of 600 l. which, with the assistance of Mrs. Preston, she laid out in the purchase of bank stock. She then bought a harpsichord, and began to practice and study with the utmost diligence: . and having communicated her design of appearing in public to Mrs. Preston, that gentlewoman brought one of the first performers and best judges to hear her

her play and sing. Mr. L—— was charmed with her, and being then proprietor of Mary le Bonne gardens, immediately engaged her at a very genteel salary; and she made her first public appearance there that very summer.

Never was any new performer so applauded, or so much encouraged as Miss Faulkner. Her voice and taste for musick were greatly admired; but the elegance of her person, her modest deportment, and the natural sweetness of her temper and her affability, procured her universal esteem and respect; and every night the gardens were crowded with the genteelest company, to hear and see this admirable young lady.

We

We must suppose the gentlemen, most famous for gallantry and intrigue, were not idle on this new acquisition to their pleasures: for, however unreasonable or unjust it may be deemed, by much the majority of our nobility and gentlemen of fortune immediately conclude, that any young woman, who makes her appearance on the stage, or any of the other public places of entertainment, becomes their lawful prize; and that they have a right to treat and insult her with their scandalous proposals for debauching and keeping, though she is perfectly modest and averse to such sentiments. This is a real hardship on those young ladies, whose merit, youth, and sex, intitle them

to

to the public encouragement and protection; and although necessity may oblige them to enter into that state of life for their support, and to avoid prostitution, it by no means justifies the cruelty or insolence of those unthinking fools of fashion, who are hourly pestering them with their loathsome and insipid addresses and proposals.

Miss Faulkner suffered prodigiously from this shameful custom. Many considerable proposals and offers of settlement were made to her, which she rejected with a resentment and disdain, that did her no less honour, than it abashed and mortified the *ninny hammers* that made them;

them; and, for that season, she escaped without the smallest censure on her conduct, and with the highest public applause.

C H A P. XXV.

IN the winter it was expected and agreed on, that she should make her appearance on Covent Garden theatre; but amongst the number of her admirers was one Mr. D——, a young gentleman of very genteel appearance and polite address. He used every possible means of getting acquainted with her, and at last effected it through Mrs. Preston, in whose house Miss Faulkner still continued to board and lodge. Mr. D—— assured Mrs. Preston, that his intentions respecting Miss Faulkner were strictly honourable, and that he was a gentleman of an independant fortune; that

that her lodger had made the deepest impression on his heart, and that, if she would countenance and encourage his addresses, he would amply reward her. Mrs. Preston assured him, that, if his designs were honourable, and his addresses agreeable to Miss Faulkner, she would do him any service in her power; and the next morning engaged him to breakfast with herself and our heroine.

Mr. D——— had before several times occasionally spoke to Miss Faulkner in publick, merely as a singer, and to compliment her on her performance. She immediately recollected him, and being assured by Mrs. Preston, that his addresses were perfectly honourable, she received

ceived him with her usual politeness and civility; and as soon as breakfast was finished, and Mrs. Breston withdrawn, Mr. D—— made a formal declaration of his passion: that he had long wished for an opportunity of assuring her his intentions were sincere and honourable; that his fortune, though not abundant, was competent and independant; and that if she would condescend to think favourably of him, he would esteem himself extremely honoured in her acceptance of his hand and fortune. He added, that he was no stranger either to her disagreeable situation, or the nauseous proposals which were every day made to her, and she had nobly refused; that these refusals encreased

encreased his esteem for her, and justified the impression which her beauty had first made upon him; that when it should be known she was married to a gentleman, her troublesome suitors would desist from their ungenerous and mean pursuits, but that whilst she continued single, she must not expect any respite from their importunities.

Miss Faulkner, with great attention, heard the whole of Mr. D————'s declaration, and returned him suitable compliments for his kind intentions and favourable opinion of her; but assured him, that she did not entertain the least thoughts about matrimony, and were she but free from those fulsome and disagreeable

disagreeable sollicitations he had mentioned, she should be extremely well contented with her situation: that if any thing could persuade her to alter her condition, it would be the very motives he had mentioned; but that at present she could not think of it. Mr. D———— however obtained her permission to repeat his visits, and after expressing his hopes, that his future conduct would procure him some part of her esteem, he took a most respectful leave of her for that time; but more than ever in love and charmed with her good sense and elegant behaviour.

Although courtship is a pleasing subject, we shall not here dwell longer
upon

upon it; let it suffice, that Mr. D—— was so assiduous in his addresses, and rendered himself so very agreeable to Miss Faulkner, that, at the end of three months, she consented to give him her hand, and they were married in as private a manner as possible.

C H A P. XXVI.

MR. D—— was so very generous in his addressees to Miss Faulkner, that, during the whole time of their courtship, he never once enquired into her circumstances or fortune; and her own integrity, generosity and inexperience, prevented her ever entertaining a thought on that subject, with respect to his circumstances. She really liked him, and considered herself as highly honoured and obliged in the generosity of a gentleman, of his appearance and independence, marrying her in the situation of life she was in; and therefore never suspected the least imposition;

imposition; and in a few days after their marriage she acquainted him, that she had in the funds 600 l. to dispose of as he thought proper.

This was a circumstance, that Mr. D——— was before well acquainted with, and in reality was the *load-stone* that attracted all his affections to the unsuspecting Miss Faulkner. It is true, he once had a small fortune, which was entirely consumed in gaming and other follies, and he was now reduced to the most desperate circumstances, and therefore seized this 600 l. as the only means to keep him from a prison and immediate poverty. Nevertheless he kept up appearances with his wife, and, after he had got
this

this money, they lived some time in great content and tranquillity, and she was perfectly happy in her choice.

Their sunshine did not, however, long continue. Mr. D—— took to his old trade of gaming, and associating with a set of villains, who had before cheated him out of his fortune, they in a few months stript him of every shilling of his last acquisition. This made him desperate, and he plunged himself into every sort of debauch and excess. He threw off every appearance of love and respect for his wife, and by degrees stript her of even her wearing apparel, and every necessary she had about her person;

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and, to compleat the horror of her misery, he gave her the foul distemper, and then absconded both from her and his creditors, to avoid that prison from which she had before redeemed him.

It would but too much affect a sympathizing heart, to describe what our unfortunate heroine suffered on this occasion. She was reduced to the most deplorable circumstances, without a second change of apparel, or any friend on earth to assist or relieve her; but her greatest misfortune was the dreadful distemper, which she laboured under for some time, before she knew or ever suspected the cause. Mrs. Preston first discovered it; and as she was principally

principally the means of this fatal connection with Mr. D——, she was indeed deeply afflicted. — She made immediate application to Mr. M——, a gentleman of her acquaintance, who, she knew, had a very great friendship for Miss Faulkner, as well before as after her marriage, and acquainted him with her unhappy situation and circumstances.

Mr. M—— had a heart abounding with compassion and benevolence; but his circumstances prevented his giving the immediate assistance, that his inclinations and this unfortunate lady's case required. He contributed what he could towards it; but was resolved to sol-

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licit

licit and procure for her, what he was not able to do himself. He was at that time very intimate with Lord H——, and knew, that his Lordship's heart and purse were ever open to distressed merit. To him therefore Mr. M—— immediately applied, and related so much as he knew of our heroine's history and distresses, in so pathetic and moving a manner, that his Lordship instantly dispatched him with a bank-note of 50 l. to our fair sufferer, and desired that a surgeon of the first eminence should be forthwith employed, and every other attendance given for her immediate cure; all which he would chearfully pay.

Mr.

Mr. M—— in raptures returned to Mrs. Preston, and acquainted her with his success. Mrs. Preston was no less overjoyed: but all that she could say, could not persuade Mr. M—— to approach the object of their mutual concern, lest he should abash and confuse her. He knew her delicacy and modesty would be shocked at his knowledge of her condition, and therefore would not go into her presence; but giving Mrs. Preston the bank note, he desired her to go and purchase whatever necessaries were wanting; and went directly himself to engage a surgeon.

Miss Faulkner was an utter stranger to every thing that passed upon this occasion, nor had Mrs. Preston fully

M 3 apprized.

apprized her of the dangerous situation she was in; but as soon as the surgeon came, after a proper consultation between Mr. M——, the surgeon, and herself, for that purpose, he was introduced to Miss Faulkner, as a surgeon of Mrs. Preston's acquaintance, who called accidentally, and, as she was indisposed, would prescribe something for her; and by degrees, the affair was thus opened, until the surgeon explained to her the necessity of her submitting to a regular cure. All the misfortunes, that had ever before happened to her, were trifling to what she felt, on this information of the nature of her disorder; and she would have cheerfully resigned her life, rather than bear the infamy, which

which she conceived the very name of this disease carried with it. She was, however, obliged to submit, and, in a little time after, Mrs. Preston informed her of the obligations she was under to Mr. M——, who had procured her such assistance both of friends and money.

C H A P. XXVII.

AT the expiration of two months our fair sufferer was once more re-established in her health, but rendered extremely weak and delicate; nor had she for some time before, or since her illness, ever heard a syllable of Mr. D——. The surgeon, who attended her, reported daily the progress of her cure to Mr. M——, who constantly reported it to Lord H——; and when she was perfectly recovered, his Lordship signified his intention to Mr. M—— of visiting his fair friend, as soon as it was agreeable to her.

Mr.

Mr. M—— immediately acquainted Miss Faulkner, (as we shall continue to call her) with his Lordship's intentions; and though her gratitude obliged her to receive his Lordship with every mark of respect, she was so overcome with grief, confusion, and distress, at the cause of this visit, that she would have given any consideration to avoid the interview: but there was no alternative, and a day was accordingly fixed for his Lordship to visit her. Mr. M—— introduced his Lordship, who, with his usual affability and politeness, requested Miss Faulkner would favour him with a dish of tea; and although our heroine, as well as Mr. M——, several times attempted to introduce the

obligations his Lordship had conferred, he politely evaded hearing it, and shewed Mr. M—— that it would be disagreeable to him to have it mentioned. His Lordship was charmed with the behaviour and sensibility of Miss Faulkner; and after tea, requested Mr. M—— would intercede with his fair friend for the favour of a song, which she immediately consented to. Lord H—— is a perfect judge, and a great admirer of musick; and he was now at once delighted and surprized. He had indeed heard of this lady's inimitable voice and performance, but she exceeded every thing he had formed an idea of; and he was sensibly struck, as well with the beauty and elegance of her person,

person, as with the ravishing harmony of her voice.

Lord H—— took Mr. M—— home with him in his chariot, and assured him, that he had never felt more exquisite delight than in the company of our heroine; that it was his firm purpose to put her above both want and temptation; and as an instance of his regard for her, he gave Mr. M—— bank notes to the amount of 200 l. desiring, he would immediately remove her from Mrs. Preston's, and take proper lodgings, where he might see and visit her; and that Miss Faulkner should furnish herself with cloaths and other necessaries, with the remainder of the money.

For several months afterwards his Lordship continued to visit, and spent several most delightful evenings with Miss Faulkner, without shewing the least particular attachment to her, other than the usual compliments on her extraordinary musical abilities; and behaved to her with so much respect and affability, and at the same time with such generosity, tenderness, and delicacy, that she was entirely overcome with gratitude and esteem for him, in so much that she perfectly adored him. At length, his passion for his fair ward became too violent to be longer restrained. He with reluctance, but with the greatest delicacy, opened his mind to her; and if she did not love his Lordship, as much as he desired,

desired, her gratitude and esteem for him put it out of her power to refuse him any thing he could request of her.

In short, the apprehension of being detected and seized by Mr. D——— seemed to be the only objection or obstacle to their union; and that Lord H——— undertook to remove. His Lordship was then at the head of one of the most considerable offices under the crown, and had such diligent enquiry made after Mr. D———, that he with some difficulty found him out; and after severely reprimanding him for the infamy of his conduct and behaviour to his wife, his Lordship told him, that if he
would

would go to America, and engage never to return to England to disturb or molest her, he would instantly furnish him with a sum of money to carry him there, and provide him with necessaries, and that he would give him an employment worth 500 l. a year, during his continuance in that place.

Mr. D———— very clearly understood his Lordship's intentions; but this was too advantageous an offer, for a man in his circumstances to refuse. He did not therefore hesitate about accepting the proposal: his Lordship strictly fulfilled all his engagements; and Mr. D———— embarked for America in less than a week after the treaty was concluded.

C H A P. XXVIII.

AS soon as Lord H—— knew that Mr. D—— was failed, he waited on our heroine with the news, with which she was perfectly pleased, and declared herself entirely at his Lordship's disposal; upon which he took out of his pocket a paper, which he read to her, whereby he had settled 400 l. a year upon her for life, payable to proper trustees, for her sole and separate use, independant of her husband; and she went home immediately to his Lordship's house, but in the character of governess to two young ladies, his daughters; and in that situation she remained, till her pregnancy,

nancy, in less than a year, made it necessary she should retire into the country for some time.

Lord H——'s love and esteem for our heroine every day encreased, and her behaviour, sweetness of temper, and perpetual study to please and amuse him, justly intitled her to his utmost regards; nor were the young ladies, his daughters, less fond of her. After she was brought to bed in the country, she immediately returned to his Lordship's house in town; and the young ladies having before made some progress in musick, and having naturally a fine ear and taste, Miss Faulkner devoted her whole time and assiduity to their instruction, till they became
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the admiration of every body that heard them.

At the expiration of another year, Miss Faulkner was obliged to retire a second time into the country, and was delivered of a second child, which was also sent to nurse; and on her return to town, his Lordship was under a necessity of taking a separate house for her, the reason whereof she did not then know, or enquire into, as his will was a law to her.

Lord H—— had been many years a widower, and his great generosity and benevolence always kept him in distressed circumstances; and as he was extremely respected and
beloved

beloved by almost all ranks of people, several of his friends advised him to marry some woman of large fortune, and thereby discharge the many incumbrances which devoured his estate, and enable him to live in that splendor which his rank and inclinations required. It was a long time before he could resolve on this project, though he knew the expediency of it, and his strong attachment to Miss Faulkner was his greatest difficulty. But necessity, and the persuasion of his friends at length prevailed; and he accordingly paid his addresses to a lady, that had been fixed upon, one of the greatest fortunes in the kingdom. He met with every encouragement he could wish for; and after

a courtship of a few months, marriage articles were prepared, and a day appointed for the celebration of the nuptials.

This treaty, and every negotiation relative thereto, was kept a profound secret from Miss Faulkner; nor did she ever hear or suspect any thing of it, till a few days before that fixed on for his Lordship's marriage. The news almost distracted her; and she was determined, if possible, to prevent this union, on which all her future welfare and happiness depended. She therefore posted into the country, for her two children, and the very day before Lord H—— was to be married, she got admittance into his Lordship's

ship's house, when he least expected to see her; and falling prostrate before him, with a child in each hand, she begged his Lordship to have pity on her, and not desert herself and those innocent babes. In short, she pleaded so powerfully, and the compassionate heart of her Lord was so sensibly moved with her unfeigned grief and distress, that he was entirely subdued; his regards for her returned upon him with such irresistible tenderness, that he raised her from her prostrate posture, embraced her, and declared that to gain an empire, he would never desert or forsake her. She was lost in transport, and her tears only expressed her gratitude and her joy; to complete which, his Lordship, in
her.

her presence, wrote a letter to the lady he was to be married to the next day, acquainting her, that some insurmountable obstacles had intervened, which prevented the honour of the union she intended him: and the whole negotiation was finally set aside, to the astonishment and vexation of all his Lordship's friends, as well as those of the lady.

C H A P. XXIX.

VARIOUS were the opinions of both sexes on this part of his Lordship's conduct. We shall therefore make no comments upon it, but leave every reader to form his own judgment upon so very extraordinary an event.

The purpose for which his Lordship kept a separate house being now ended, he, immediately after this adventure, took his beloved home again to his own house, where she was vested with every authority as mistress of it, and as such was obeyed, treated, and respected, for upwards of three years; at the end of which

which time, his Lordship was appointed governor of a neighbouring kingdom.

This noble appointment filled our heroine with the highest transports. She knew she should thereby have an opportunity of visiting her native soil, and providing for several of her poor friends and relations. The necessary preparations being made, his Lordship set out for his government, and took *her Excellency* with him; but as he could not, with any propriety, take her to the usual place of residence of the *Vice Roys* of that kingdom, a certain courtier, (who was then heartily tired and ashamed of the name he was born with, and therefore warmly solicited
for

for a title, which he has since obtained) having a delightful *villa*, within a few miles of the capital, made his court to our heroine, not doubting but it was the proper channel for preferment, and requested she would honour his seat with her residence, during *her Vice-Royship*, which *was graciously accepted*.—The name of this place is Luttrellstown, where she kept a very brilliant court, and received as many addressees and memorials, as the first governor of that, or any other kingdom. She indeed filled her part of the administration with the greatest dignity and applause, and became as remarkable, and as universally respected for her generosity and compassion, as for her patriotism and profound skill in

in politics. She was, in short, the *Maintenon* of the age.

Amongst many other instances of her generosity, we shall mention one that is a recorded fact. There was at that time in the university of the metropolis, a young student, whose name was Wright. His father was a clergyman, who enjoyed a considerable living in the church for many years; but having a large family, to whom he gave a genteel education, he died, leaving little or no fortune amongst his children. And this young gentleman having studied very hard for a fellowship, it was, on examination, given against him, as he thought, through the partiality of the Provost; and having by that

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means lost, or given up, all hope of preferment that way, he became desperate, and resolved on the following extraordinary method of promotion.

He repaired one morning to our heroine's court in the country, and requested an audience, which was granted him. He explained the injustice done him by the Provost of the university, and his other circumstances as above related; and declared, as he had no method of procuring an honest livelihood, that if *her Excellency* did not procure him a commission in the army, within two days, he would then commence highwayman, and rob man, woman, and child, until he should be apprehended,

hended, as he would, he said, much rather be hanged than starved. Our heroine, struck with his resolution and address, presented him with a purse of guineas, took down his name and address, and promised he should hear from her shortly. She accordingly went to his Excellency, and represented the affair to him exactly as it had happened, and gave him the young gentleman's address; requesting at the same time that something might be done for him, as he seemed a young fellow of great spirit and resolution. His Excellency immediately sent for the Provost, and enquired into his character and conduct, and finding both altogether irreproachable, he instantly sent an ensign's commission to Miss Faulk-

268 THE MEMOIRS OF

ner, who presented it to this heroe, with a purse of 100 guineas to buy him regimentals and other necessities; and he has since, through his patroness's favour, been raised to the rank of a captain of dragoons, which he now enjoys.

C H A P. XXX.

ON enquiry into her own family affairs, she found both her parents were dead, and had left a son unprovided for, who lived with a gentleman near the place of his nativity: this brother she sent for, and ordering him to be cloathed and properly dressed, he made his appearance at court, but a few degrees above *Peter the wild boy*. He was, however, immediately put under the care of a tutor, to instruct him as well in letters as behaviour, and in a short time he could make a very decent bow, and return a civil answer to any question that was asked him. Miss Faulkner could hardly be

persuaded he was her brother; for there was something in his nature, as well as in his shape, size and manner, so clumsy and uncouth, and so very opposite to her own delicate frame and temper, that she dreaded it was an imposition on her to make her receive him as her brother, until she had proper testimonials of his birth, &c.

After much pains and instruction, he was, however, introduced to the presence of his Excellency, and was *graciously received*; but how to provide for him was the greatest difficulty. Many consultations were held for this purpose; when it was at length determined to advance him in the army, and a commission was accord-

accordingly given him. He was dressed in very elegant regimentals; and, by his constant attendance at his sister's *court*, and the constant instructions he received, with the additions of dancing and fencing, he became very much improved in his manners and conversation, and was permitted to dine at the same table with *her Excellency*, *when alone*.

We must not suppose that, in this high station, our heroine was unmindful of her uncle and aunt *Paragraph*; she really was not. She had not been long settled in *her government*, when she sent for them; and they were no less surprized than rejoiced at seeing their dear, long lost niece in such an exalted sphere of life. Their

darling hope of title and preferment was once more revived, and Mr. *Paragraph* assured his Lady, that he always entertained the greatest hopes, nay was quite certain, that the dignity of the *Paragraph* family would be raised by his accomplished niece. Certain it is, that Mr. *Paragraph* was introduced to his Excellency at *Luttrellstown*, and that he was promised the honour of Knighthood before the departure of his Excellency from the administration of that kingdom. But his evil genius still attended him in the pursuit of this title, and at the moment he was most sure of having it conferred on him, an unlucky and unforeseen adventure, once more, snatched the laurel from his bended brow. And as it

cannot

cannot be doubted, but every compassionate reader entertains the highest concern for the frequent disappointments of Mr. and Mrs. *Paragraph*, the circumstances attending this last misfortune must be agreeable to them, and are for that reason *only* related in the following chapter.

C H A P. XXXI.

IT happened that Mr. and Mrs. *Paragraph*, about a year before their niece's arrival in Ireland, had some occasion to go to London, and, in their passage to Parkgate, were in the most imminent danger of being lost, and the ship wrecked. Mr. *Paragraph*'s greatest concern was about his worthy Lady, and in the midst of the terror and confusion, which the danger occasioned amongst the passengers and sailors, Mr. *Paragraph* was quite composed, and resigned to his destiny. He used every means in his power to cherish and comfort Mrs. *Paragraph*, who was almost expiring with fear, and the cries and
shouts

shouts of the numerous passengers on board rendered the scene truly horrible. But this did not in the least affect Mr. *Paragraph*; he was a perfect philosopher; and retiring with his Lady to a private corner of the cabin, took the most affectionate adieu, and at the same time assured her, there was one thing which he could wish to be resolved in before he left this world, and that her answering him a single question would set his mind perfectly at rest, and fit it for a passage to the Elysian shades. Mrs. *Paragraph* with astonishment assured him, there was nothing that she could do to contribute to his repose or happiness, which she would not chearfully comply with, and

desired him to explain himself ; which he did by the following question :

“ I beg then to know whether my dear Mrs. *Paragraph* has ever been false to my bed ? ”

Which question produced the following reply :

“ My contempt, Mr. *Paragraph*, for the present shall conquer my indignation. If you were not conscious of some defects on your part, you would not have dared at any time, but particularly on such an occasion as this, to have asked me so presumptuous a question ; nor will I answer it otherwise than by assuring you, that whatever has happened,

relative

relative to your mean suspicions, shall remain a profound secret in my own bosom, *sink or swim.*"

In all probability this conversation would never have been repeated, had not a certain passenger been lying in a hammock just near them, and in the dark they could not perceive him. Mr. *Paragraph*, confounded and abashed, left his lady to get on deck, and learn whether he should be allowed further time to dive into this impenetrable secret, which he had so much at heart; and to his great joy was informed, they were all out of danger, and ready to land, which they did a few hours afterwards at Parkgate; and he hoped and believed, that his cabin conversation

was

was entirely forgot by Mrs. *Paragraph*, and that he should never hear more about it: nor did he ever after, until he was upon the very point of his knighthood.

Hear, gentle reader! and sympathize in the misfortunes of this worthy man. The person that heard the cabbin conversation, was no other than the inimitable, satirical, and wicked Mr. *F——*; and Mr. *Paragraph* having about this time a dispute with the manager of one of the theatres in Dublin, the cruel and malicious *F——* was tempted, *by some infernal instigation*, to introduce this conversation, with some other severe strictures on the person and character of Mr. *Paragraph*, into his Orators,
which

which rendered him so perfectly ridiculous, that for some months he never went out of his own doors, without being followed by a parcel of boys and rude mob, mimicking this cruel mimick, in the character of Mr. *Paragraph*, and asking him, *whether his dear Mrs. Paragraph had ever been false to his bed?*

Although it is perfectly disagreeable to relate, yet it is true, that there never was a character exhibited, *Cadwallader* not excepted, that afforded so much diversion, or met with so much applause. Mr. *Paragraph* could not be persuaded, that *F——* could be so inhuman, as to render him an object of such ridicule; and for his conviction, was persuaded by
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some arch-rogue to get into a private part of the house, and have both ocular and auricular demonstration; which he agreed to. But no sooner had he taken his seat than he was furrounded by such crowds, that he could not get out, of which the cruel F—— had intelligence, and added some strokes of wit and satire, which let the audience know that Mr. *Paragraph* was present, which drew such bursts of applause and laughter, as almost deprived that worthy gentleman of his senses. He got home, and instantly complained to his niece; but neither her authority, nor that of the *Vice Roy*, could suppress the performance for upwards of twenty successive nights.

Mr.

Mr. *Paragraph* at length had recourse to the law, and preferred a bill of indictment against Mr. F—— for libelling him, which the grand jury immediately found, and by that means the piece was for the present suppressed; but the affair had such an effect on Mr. *Paragraph*, that he would not have attended before his Excellency to be dubb'd for the first title in the kingdom, and has ever since remained *plain* Mr. *Paragraph*.

C H A P. XXXII.

THIS unlucky incident gave our heroine much anxiety, but she conducted herself with great moderation and prudence, and, in the course of *her administration*, acquitted herself to the entire satisfaction of the whole kingdom. But, after her return to England, she had a pension settled on that establishment, of six or seven hundred pounds a year on one Mr. L——, whom the people of that country never saw nor heard of, and have never since been able to find out, *and for that reason* many in that kingdom, as well as in England, have been malicious enough to report, that this pension is established

blished for *her own use*; and that she receives it to this day; which has greatly altered their sentiments both of her and his Excellency.

Granting this were true, is it not very surprizing, that these ungrateful and unnatural people should murmur so much at paying a few hundred pounds a year to a gentlewoman of their own country, who rendered them many signal services during *her administration amongst them*, when they at the same time, without reluctance, pay upwards of a hundred thousand pounds a year, in places and pensions, to the *Sardinian Ambassador, Dicky Riggabout, Blackard Hamilton*, and many other honourable and right honourable rascals, whom

whom they have never seen nor heard of, unless when they come among them, to enslave and plunder them?

It has been often remarked, that it is impossible for *ladies*, who have any hand in the administration of national affairs, to preserve their integrity, that is, that they are more liable to what is vulgarly called bribery and corruption, in the selling and procuring of places, employments, &c. &c. than men; or at least that they do it, *with a much better grace*; and it is reported that our heroine, after her return from her *Vice Royship*, became so skilled in this art and mystery of politicks, that she planned out the channel for her Lord's being appointed to one of the most

most honourable and lucrative employments in this kingdom, in the conduct of which it is whispered, that she has acquired an immense fortune for her and many of her attendants.

Her brother, whom we must now distinguish by the name of Captain F——, returned with her to England, and shortly after obtained a company of foot; and as she was determined to make him the head of her family, she employed several agents to find out some rich citizen's widow or daughter, with whom she could strike up a match. She at length found out a widow lady, who lived near Bloomsbury Square, and who had an only daughter, extremely beautiful

beautiful, and intitled to a fortune of 20,000*l*. This lady, whose name was C——r, was the widow of a stock-broker in the city, who had acquired an immense fortune, and had left his widow as rich as his daughter. In this family our heroine determined to provide for her brother, either with the mother or daughter, and for that purpose got into the acquaintance of some of Mrs. C——r's friends, who knowing her influence over Lord H——, and how much it was in her power to promote both them and their friends, thought themselves highly honoured in her acquaintance and visits, and Mrs. C——r and her daughter were soon admitted into this party. Even

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in *this company*, great apologies were necessary to be made for the roughness and crudity of the Captain's behaviour; but it was observed, that he had always been at sea, or in the field, ever since his youth, and it could not be expected, that the joint production of *Mars* and *Neptune* should be modernly polite, tho' acceptable even to a *Venus*. Miss C——r was really an elegant girl, and was now in her twentieth year, but had never had any opportunity of keeping polite company, and had received but an indifferent education; yet she could not but entertain an utter aversion to this heterogeneous monster. His bulk was enormous, his complexion and countenance horrible, and his behaviour and conversation resembled

resembled that of a wolf, more than a human being; no wonder then that this lovely girl could not endure him. But on his part it was entirely otherwise; he was enamoured with her from the first moment he saw her, and pressed his sister, in the most earnest manner *he was able*, to forward his pretensions.

C H A P. XXXIII.

IT is true, Mrs. C——r gave this amiable Captain all the encouragement he could wish for. But in order to vindicate her character, it is necessary to observe, that Miss C——r had some time before taken a fancy to her mother's coachman, and eloped with him for a whole week before she was discovered and taken back from him; and tho' Miss C——r assured her mother and all her friends, that the coachman was *too modest* to make any attempt on her virtue, yet her mother was under apprehensions, that something more had passed that might be productive of very *visible*
O consequences

consequences in due time, or that her constitution was too warm for the climate of London. These considerations, together with the honour and advantages of the intended alliance, induced her to give the captain all the encouragement he could desire; and as the finishing stroke to this treaty, Lord H—— in person waited on Mrs. C——r, and assured her of his countenance and protection on the occasion. This was an honour not to be resisted, and Miss C——r was ordered to hold herself in readiness for the captain's embraces.

They dreaded the aversion Miss C——r expressed to her lover; and although Miss Faulkner never passed a day that she did not visit
Mrs.

Mrs. C——r and her daughter, or had them down with her at Lord H——'s country seat, she could not procure Miss C——r's consent to the nuptials. On the contrary she declared, she would suffer death rather than marry the man she detested. But as the captain was sure of the mother's consent and 20,000*l.* he gave himself very little concern about the inclinations of the young lady, provided he got her into bed to him, which his sister and Mrs. C——r promised him he should have. Under these circumstances it was thought most advisable to have a special licence, lest she should prove refractory at church, and mar their designs; but with the special licence she could be noosed at Lord H——'s country seat

by his chaplain, by force or any other means they could devise or should find necessary. A special licence was accordingly obtained, and every thing prepared for the ceremony.

Miss C——r suspected their designs, and had for some time past entertained an affection for a young gentleman, that lodged directly opposite to her mother's house, but had never had an opportunity of speaking to him but once, tho' they had often conversed with their eyes from the opposite windows. To this gentleman she was determined, at all events, to apply for assistance, and as she was never permitted to stir out of doors but in the company of her mother and other attendants, she was
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under the necessity of writing to him; and after acquainting him with her melancholy situation, she frankly owned she had for some time loved him, and was ready to put him in possession of her person and fortune.

This young gentleman had for some time looked on Miss C——r with a favourable eye, but being informed that she was just on the point of being married, he thought it idle to give himself any farther trouble about her, and for that reason had neglected to pay that attention to her frequent appearance at her window to him, and some other signals, which this information only prevented his considering in their true light;

but, on receipt of her letter, he was determined to rescue her out of the house, at the peril of his life. He accordingly bribed her maid to deliver his answer to her letter, desiring that she would be ready to clope that night at eleven o'clock, that a 'chaife and four, with proper attendants, should wait within a few yards of her door, and that he would be ready to receive her the moment she set her foot out of the house; and drive off directly for Scotland.

The receipt of this letter rejoiced Miss C-----r to such a degree, that she could hardly contain herself; nor did ever poor maid so much long for the appointed hour. She could not rest

a moment in any one place, but run into every private room and corner of the house, to read over and kiss this warrant for her delivery.. Night came, and her lover stood at his own window, looking at this lovely girl putting on a light riding dress, and just preparing to steal down stairs, when lo! her virago mother entered the room, and seizing her in the most brutal and violent manner by the hair, dragged her about most inhumanly, and threatned to murder her. No man of either courage or humanity could stand to see such barbarity. Her lover flew down stairs, and thundered at Mrs. C——r's door, but was refused admittance. The treacherous maid,

who carried the letter, was in pay with Miss Faulkner, and discovered the whole design to Mrs. C——r, who had previously sent off an express to the captain, barricaded and locked all her doors, and would not permit any person to enter, until the arrival of the captain and his sister. But she no sooner saw the young gentleman knocking at her door, than with a true Billingsgate vociferation, she cried out, Thieves! Murder! Rape! Ravishment! Robbers! Watch! Help! Neighbours! &c. &c. for a full half hour, without once stopping, till her breath was quite exhausted, and she became so hoarse, that she could not bawl out any longer. Her cries alarmed the whole neigh-

neighbourhood, and the house was presently furrounded with numbers of people. This in course obliged our young heroe to decamp, to his inexpressible grief and mortification.

C H A P. XXXIV.

THE unfortunate Miss C——r's hopes of delivery being thus frustrated, her lover, whom we shall call Mr. Butler, fired with love and resentment, was resolved to support his pretensions by his sword; and as soon as he saw the Captain enter Mrs. C——r's house the next morning, he sent him a card, desiring he would appoint a time and place, where he should wait on him that evening. The noble Captain shewed this card to Mrs. C——r, who instantly construed it into a challenge; and told the Captain, that this was the very fellow, whom her daughter was going to clope with the preceding

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ing night, and advised him, by all means, to decline meeting the *ravishing, blood-thirsty rogue*. These were really her expressions, and it is but just the reader should have them by way of instruction, and as a specimen of polite education. This explanation of Mr. Butler's card threw the Captain into the utmost consternation. It is true, he had for some time wore a sword, but had never yet been called upon to use it; and, on due examination of himself, he discovered an utter aversion to cold iron. He was therefore very easily persuaded to follow Mrs. C——r's advice in declining to meet Mr. Butler, or even to send him any answer to his card, until the arrival

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of Miss Faulkner—*who was now of the privy council.*

During these deliberations, Miss C——r was locked up in a dark closet, and a guard set over her; and about noon Miss Faulkner drove up to Mrs. C——r's door in Lord H——'s coach and six, with a splendid retinue of servants and attendants; and being informed of the business of the night, and reading Mr. Butler's card, she instantly declared, she would have that ravishing villain taken up by a secretary of state's warrant, and imprisoned for life, for daring to conspire, or threaten the death of her brother, who was then so immediately connected with the state; and accordingly

MISS FAULKNER. 301

ingly set out for Whitehall for that purpose: but upon stating the affair to Lord H——, his Lordship was of opinion, that he could not with safety issue a warrant against Butler, as Captain F—— had not yet been sworn into the privy council. He therefore recommended a warrant from the civil magistrate, for apprehending Mr. Butler.

Before this warrant could be obtained, it was necessary, that the Captain should appear before a justice of the peace, and swear, *that he was in dread and fear of his life*, from the terrible menaces of this assassin, Butler; which, to the honour of his regimentals, long sword, and valiant cockade, he certainly and absolutely did.

did do, and obtained a warrant against Mr. Butler, who was taken thereon, and bound over in a recognizance of 5000 l. that he would not commit any assault on the magnanimous captain; and when the recognizance on the part of Mr. Butler was entered into, the magistrate, as usual in such cases, recommended it to Mr. Butler, to bind the Captain in a like security to keep the peace with him. Mr. Butler told the justice, that he could not do it; and being asked his reason, he said, that as it could not be done without his swearing, that he was in dread and fear of the Captain, it was impossible he should do so without perjuring himself, for that he was not in dread or fear of any thing like

like him; and giving the Captain a look of the highest contempt, left him at the justice's.

This point of honour being thus settled, it was resolved that no more time should be lost in the accomplishment of their design. Miss Faulkner therefore prevailed with Mrs. C——r. to take her daughter with her immediately into the country, and that the nuptials should be celebrated the very next night. The wretched Miss C——r was accordingly released from her confinement, and by force put into Lord H——'s coach, with the valiant Captain; and they set out directly, with a magnificent retinue, for B——y Park, where the next night the hero was put

put in possession of one of the finest girls in England with a fortune of 20,000 l.

It would shock humanity to read or describe the barbarities, that were practiced on this unfortunate young lady, to force her into the arms of this monster. Let it therefore suffice to say, that in less than a month they separated. Her aversion to him every hour increased, and she justly treated him with abhorrence and contempt; which so provoked his brutal nature, that he beat, kicked, and abused her almost every hour: and as they returned to Mrs. C——r's in some few days after their marriage, the whole neighbourhood was alarmed in the middle of the night with

with this distressed lady's cries of Murder. Several gentlemen forced into the house, and on entering her room, found her weltering in her blood, beat and bruised in the most shocking manner, and her fine hair, torn out by handfuls, strewed about the chamber. Her monster of a husband was treated with the utmost indignity and abuse by several of the spectators, particularly by one gentleman, who directly took his wife out of the house to his own, and the next day generously had her situation laid before the Lord Chancellor, who ordered her an immediate maintenance, suitable to her fortune, and stopt the noble Captain's receiving a single shilling belonging to her — until a further hearing.

Mrs.

Mrs. C——r, when it was too late, saw the cruelty of her behaviour to her daughter. She immediately agreed to the separation, and went into the country with her; but the treatment she had received, made such an impression on her tender heart, and so affected her, that she fell into a deep consumption, and at the end of six months died; leaving her mother and the detested Captain to dispute her fortune; which, perhaps, they are, at this day, contending for in Chancery. It is possible, the gentle reader will wish, that neither of them may live to enjoy it.

C H A P. XXXV.

THE death of Miss C——r, and the disappointment of receiving the 20,000 l. which our heroine expected the Captain should pocket with her, were severe strokes both to her pride and political views. Lord H——, notwithstanding his high and lucrative employments, was in the most embarrassed circumstances; nor was it an uncommon thing to see an execution, with a parcel of ruffian bailiffs, lodged in his house, and his plate and furniture on the very point of a public sale. The greatest part of the 20,000 l. was therefore intended to be lent his Lordship *at interest*. The
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disappointment fell heavy; for many of his Lordship's creditors, who were to have been silenced out of this *sinking* fund, became clamorous: and the pay of a captain was by no means equal to the appearance and expensive plan of life, which the brother was necessarily obliged to support during his courtship; and now that he was involved in a suit in Chancery, he was once more become an absolute dependant on the generosity and courtesy of his sister and Lord H——. The latter never much liked him, though he saw and received him, in compliment to his adored Miss Faulkner; but this lady, being still resolved to force his fortunes in the world, frankly shared the *Irish* pension with him

him for some time, and supported his cause in Chancery, which rendered his circumstances tolerably easy.

Hitherto Miss Faulkner had acted with much caution and discretion in the course of Lord H——'s administration; that is, she was not very exorbitant in the prices or conditions, on which she granted and procured several valuable and lucrative employments; but whether from necessity or avarice, we cannot determine (though inclined to think she was influenced by the former) she now played both an open and a desperate game. Her former generosity and prudence at once forsook her. There was no office, no employment

ployment, in any one department, to be disposed of, but through her means and procurement; and on these she fixed her own price. Enormous sums were raised through this channel of negotiation, and where money was not to be had, bonds, annuities, and dividends of the profits and income of each employ were daily executed and secured, till at length her office became a public exchange, and her brokers were as well known as those at *Jonathan's* or *Lloyd's*.

During this noble administration, Mr. D———n heard of the power and riches of his lady, and though in possession of a very genteel income abroad, he was resolved to share some
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of the spoils at home; and accordingly arrived in England, at a time when his presence was neither expected nor desired. After he had spent a few days in London, consulting with his friends, and inquiring into the real situation of his wife's finances and prerogative, he made her a formal visit at Lord H——'s house in Great G——-street. It is but reasonable to suppose, that his sudden appearance before his lady and Lord H——, must have strangely alarmed and disconcerted them. His Lordship expressed both the greatest surprize and resentment, and demanded his reason for quitting his employ, without his knowledge and permission: to which

Mr.

Mr. D———n replied, that the salary of his office was scarcely sufficient to support him, and that he could not reconcile it to himself to be banished from his native country, and all the other pleasures of life, for a bare maintenance; that he was well assured, Miss Faulkner had it in her power to bestow something considerable upon him, without hurting herself; and that his Lordship had it also in his power to promote him to a more agreeable and profitable station than that which he then enjoyed; and he concluded with some disagreeable insinuations, in case his terms were not immediately complied with.

Mr. D———n was not only peremptory but exorbitant in his demands. Several stratagems were made use of to evade his pretensions, but he had sagacity enough to escape every trap that was laid for him; and as Lord H——— now dreaded a separation from Miss Faulkner more than any other earthly curse, Mr. D———n's demands were, at length, complied with. He received a considerable sum of money in hand, and a much more advantageous and honourable employ, than he was formerly possessed of; and immediately returned to the West Indies, where he has ever since remained, without interrupting the happiness of his lady and Lord H———.

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If we were at liberty to urge, that the favourable or unfavourable events, that happen to us in this life, are proportioned to our virtues or vices, it might be concluded, that these fashionable lovers were adequately mortified and punished for the mutual indulgence of a criminal connection, by the sudden alteration both of their circumstances and reputation. Lord H—— had been always esteemed a man of great abilities, integrity, and honour; and had formerly filled several considerable departments of the state, with the highest applause. But he had now near finished his political career. The rapaciousness of his mistress, and his indulgence, or connivance at the bare-faced depredations

predations she daily committed, drew upon him the just and severe censures of the publick; in so much that he became both despised and detested: and his former reputation was now inveloped in the deep shade of his follies and vices. His necessities obliged him to act, in one of the most consequential employments under the crown, not agreeable to his own good sense and extensive abilities, but as the tool and slave of a person, the most obnoxious to the whole kingdom. He had no will, no power, but what he received from an odious Favourite, who has since abandoned him to the public resentment, and the persecution of

almost the whole nation; the consequence of which is likely to reduce him to beggary*, as well as infamy. His distresses have forced him to take from his mistress all her ill-gotten treasures; and he now lives with her in the country, in obscurity, where they indulge their mutual passion; and their sole ambition is to provide some fortune for a daughter, the only pledge

* The reader will perceive, that the above paragraph was written before the decision of the cause between Mr. Wilkes and the Earl of Halifax; where the damages awarded by the Jury, fell so much short of public expectation, and where it appeared, that these damages, though so unconscionably small, are to be paid, not out of his Lordship's pocket, but out of the national treasure.

of their shameful connection. His Lordship is, however, under the strongest engagements to make Miss Faulkner Countess of H——, as soon as the death of Mr. D——n can render such an union practicable.

S U P P L E M E N T.

The following Anecdotes came to hand after that part of the Memoirs, with which they are immediately connected, was printed off; and where, if they had been admitted at all into the body of the history, they ought properly to have been inserted. They are therefore here given by way of Supplement, nearly in the same words in which they were communicated to the publisher.

Mr. BINGLEY,

AS you are about publishing the Memoirs of a celebrated Lady, if you have any empty space left, you are heartily welcome to the following Anecdotes, upon the truth of which you may safely depend.

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“ When Lord H——’s Seraglio was transported to Ireland, amongst the other appendages of his household, his favourite Sultana was accompanied by several ladies of easy virtue, who, being married, added no small sanction (as they thought) to the most profligate secret measures, and the most daring trespasses upon all public decency and decorum.

“ Henry K——ne (a contented cuckold) now of Golden Square, architect, and first gentleman of the bed-chamber to his Lordship, retained no small influence in the cabinet through the interest of his wife with the Sultana; as did also another of the bed-chamber, whose name I have now forgot, through the interest of his wife with the same Sultana, for which

he was rewarded with a sinecure petty government of 400 l. per annum in some interior part of Ireland, which he now holds by deputation; and his Lordship not having then an immediate opportunity of providing for Mr. K—ne, did, without the least scruple or shame, create a place for him, unheard of before, at the expence of the public, by making him Surveyor to Dublin Castle, &c. with the capacity of receiving in England, the salary annexed of 500 l. per annum, without any obligation binding him to cross the herring-pond, to super-intend the duties of this nominal office*. These acts of

* This occasioned a late spirited enquiry in the House of Commons in Ireland, which made his commission shake, but did not overthrow it.

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munificence in his Lordship were followed by two others more gracious, though less meritorious, viz. He gave an employment (at the instance of the above-mentioned lady) to Mr. Uchside Offley, Mrs. K—ne's favourite, and her husband's journeyman, in a double capacity; and transformed her brother (by the power of his Lordship's magic wand) from a stonemason, into a son of Mars, by complimenting him with a lieutenant's commission in the army; from which, (if not mortgaged) he now receives half-pay.

“ When his Lordship acted in one of the first offices of the state, Mrs. D——l——n appointed the celebrated Mr. S——rd, her secret broker, the infamy of whose character is too

P 5 well

well known to stand in need of any illustration. This fellow had the audacity to bluster about from coffee-house to coffee-house, in the face of open day, negotiating and transacting every piece of dirty business, that could bring the Sultana ten pounds, and twenty shillings to himself; and had the address to obtain, through her means, an ensigncy in the Royal Scotch, when commanded by Sir Henry Erskine, for a *petit maitre* son of his; and also a consulship for Captain Buckmaster, his son-in-law, which he now holds in one of the Barbary States.

I am, Sir,

Your humble servant,

CIVIS."

To Mr. BINGLEY.

Dublin, January 2, 1770.

SIR,

I FIND by an Advertisement in the News-Papers, that you intend publishing the Memoirs of Miss Faulkner, now Mrs. D——; and as I suppose you mean to give some account of her present keeper, Lord H—l—f—x, the following Anecdotes, I presume, will not be thought unworthy of a place in the History of that Lady.

Soon after his Lordship was preferred to the government of Ireland, Mrs. D—— (who was then in
P 6 England).

England) was apply'd to by Mrs.

Sepingham L——m (a very remarkable Lady here) in favour of her husband.

No sooner did his Lordship receive Mrs. D——'s letter on this subject, than straight way Mr. L——m was dubbed Governor of Ross Castle.

Had he been an object of charity, his Lordship's bounty would have been well bestowed; but so far was this from being the case, that these people assume all the pride and parade of people of fashion, and yet could meanly condescend to beg from a creature, who, but a few years ago, was an inferior strolling actress in every sense of the word, and even now, in all her glory, has nothing more to boast of, than being the kept mistress of a man, who has
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made himself odious to the whole nation, by violating the rights of the British subject. But what is all this to his Lordship, his mistress, or their dependents? The government of Ross Castle has riveted Mr. L——m his friend, and the wife and mistress are sworn sisters. They visit and re-visit, and Mrs. L——m don't look upon Mrs. D——n's being an adulteress *now*, as any crime, because she's sure, if D—— were dead, his Lordship would make her an honest woman, though that, I confess, I very much doubt; for (believe me Sir) D—— might be prevailed upon to sue for a divorce, if they came up to his price, nor would there be any thing more extraordinary in his cuckolding his Lordship

Lordship after marriage than before, as it is generally supposed he hath often done; for I have been informed, that his visits to his wife, when she lived in Manchester Buildings, were very frequent.

Lord H—— was next apply'd to by Mrs. D—— for something (as she term'd it) to a woman of a very extraordinary character, a Mrs. Penelopy V——tr, a creature held in the lowest estimation upon the stage, which was her profession. She took the name of Miss *Danvers*, from her murdering Indiana in the *Conscious Lovers*. She has bulk enough to bear more being said, but her connexions and abilities are too insignificant to merit any further notice,

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In short his Lordship granted her a pension of (I think) one hundred pounds per annum, which, with the pension that Mrs. D—— has under a fictitious name, gave great and just cause to the people here to murmur. They even talked of abolishing all such pensions; which I hope they will one day or other have power and spirit enough to do. A government and two pensions, bestowed upon such worthless wretches, were deemed measures the more exceptionable, as there were many real objects of charity at that time in the kingdom. There were then, to my knowledge, clergymens and officers widows, who had no other subsistence, than what they could raise by benefit concerts every year. How amiable must his Lordship have appeared,

peared, had he appropriated the above emoluments to their use! Shame it is that two idle strollers, of the lowest class, should rob our distressed natives of what ought to be allotted for their support. As his Lordship dwells much upon his private feelings, these, as well as other acts of injustice, clearly shew his total want of social virtue: else, the joy he must have felt at doing a really benevolent action, would have made him so happy for the day, that it would, in my mind, have doubled his pleasures for the night.

The next noble act he performed within my knowledge is as follows. There was a Quarter-master in the
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fifth, or royal dragoons of Ireland, whose name was Paulfrey. This poor man went security for a gentleman, for (I think) 300 pounds. The man dying soon after, the Quarter-master was arrested and confined for the money, which it was not in his power to pay by any other means than the sale of his warrant, which was all he had on earth (at that time) to support himself, a wife and eight children. The poor fellow, well knowing his inability, contrived to make his escape. He flew to his regiment, which received and protected him. The Sheriff of the county made application to the Duke of Bedford (our then Lord Lieutenant) to order the officers to give the Quarter-master up ; but upon
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the worthy man, who was Lieutenant Colonel of the regiment at that time, hearing of the request made to his Grace, he immediately went and begged for mercy, which the Duke very humanely granted. The poor man remained quiet for some time; but when the mighty H—— came, he ordered him to be given up to the rage of his creditor. Happy had it been for some in England had his Lordship met the same fate. The Colonel, with his usual good-nature, interfered again, and told the whole affair truly as it was, and earnestly begged for a certain time for the payment of the money, but no favour could be obtained. His Lordship had been apply'd to by a member

member of parliament, and the affair *must* be done.

The Colonel then ordered the man to town, and entertained him in his own house for at least six months, during which time his Lordship promised he would make some provision for him, provided his commands were complied with; nay even pledged his *word* and *honour* for it. The Colonel, who had no idea of any man forfeiting either, was happy. The warrant was sold (to great disadvantage) the debt paid, and the poor man little better than a beggar. Perhaps you are just going to bless his Lordship, thinking there's another government for him. But stop a little. He was poor,
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and could not follow the golden rule, nor was his wife honoured with the acquaintance of Mrs. D——; consequently he was not an object worthy his Lordship's notice. Soon after Lord H—— got on the other side of the water, but left his *word* and *honour* behind, for I don't find he ever carried either the one or the other back with him. It was recommended to the Quartermaster to sell them, but they were so blotted and stained, that not a single soul here would be seen to purchase them. In fine, they hung so heavy upon the man's hands, that he mustered up all the cash he could borrow from his friends, and set out for London to have the *honour* of laying them, with

with all duty and obedience, at the Earl's feet. But though he was there for two years (and in such distressed circumstances, that he must have perished, had it not been for his old friend the Colonel, who happened to be in England, and again assisted him, as he always thinks it incumbent upon him to help the distressed) and had been both at his Lordship's town and country house, yet could he never get a sight of him except in the street. In short, the Colonel was obliged to supply him with twenty guineas to bring him back to his family; and he brought his Lordship's *word* and *honour* back with him; and as he could not make a penny of them, they were hung up at the entrance

entrance of the castle, to shew every nobleman (I had like to have said gentleman) that entertained the same principles, that they need not pawn their own *word* and *honour*, as they might have Lord H——'s dog cheap.

But, Sir, I must farther shew you how fond his Lordship was of preferring people of merit. There is one B——m, who originally was a cobbler in a little town they call Laughray. He afterwards enlisted as a trooper, and being a sneaking artful fellow, got from one thing to another, till he became a sort of a riding master; and when Lord H—— came, he found
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the method of creeping into his and his nephew's good graces; for when ever Sir G—— rode, B—— would swear he was one of the best horsemen he had seen; nay, made him believe he was a demi-god, and rode upon the clouds: but when he turned his back, would damn him, and say it was impossible for any master to make him a horseman. However this B——m has a son, a mighty insignificant fellow, and of a very indifferent character. As for example, he very frequently assists his father in beating and abusing his mother; nay, has often turned her out of doors. This I had from her own mouth, and I give it you for fact. I only

only mention this circumstance to shew his and his father's merit.

Nevertheless, to the amazement of every body, he got a Cornetcy in the regiment already mentioned, which is held in the highest esteem here. The story went *then* that his Lordship made him a present of it; but the story goes very different *now*. Five or six hundred pounds have been given upon such occasions before now; and though these people must have been pushed to the last extremity, to raise such a sum, yet if it was required, one would stretch a point upon such an occasion; and if a man has a nephew, and cash scarce, 'tis a very pretty sum (let me tell you) to warm

warm one's fingers with on a winter's morning. This same Cornet, or (perhaps by this time) Lieutenant B—— is so exceedingly clumsy and awkward, that he is a disgrace to the regiment; as most of the officers are very handsome fellows, and all not only gentlemen's *sons*, but really gentlemen themselves. How far such a son, of such a father, had pretensions to a commission in this regiment, I'll leave you to judge. I am told his merit consists chiefly in the theatrical way, as he is an excellent mimick, by which means he recommends himself to the corps. Though he has had no education, he sets up for a fine gentleman; but (as Mr. Haladay,

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the clergyman, said to him) he had better study to make both Ends meet, as his father had done before him ; alluding to the cobbling business.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

An IRISHMAN.



F I N I S.

